

Lovell

or CONSTRUCTION

# FINANCIAL TIMES

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No. 27,812

## NEWS SUMMARY

GENERAL

BUSINESS

### strike threat to BBC hows

BBC warned yesterday that technicians' strike could almost completely frost the production of main vision programmes.

350 members of the Association of Broadcasting Staff are taking action in protest at the firing of a trigger after a fight between a technician and a port manager.

Trigger has been charged assault, and the union is ending his reinstatement the outcome of the case.

#### II for debate

'brutality'

is of police brutality at terrorist suspects at the rearg interrogation centre, Ireland have led to command from West Belfasterry for a full Commission on Ulster and emergency powers.

Government has denied the allegations made London Weekend Television's Weekend World programme as "another thinly disguised attack on the Royal Constabulary and the

#### es forecast

verage household rates bill up by 17.5 per cent in according to the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountants. Inner rates are likely to rise per cent, while Wales 26 per cent increase.

#### ha promise

African Premier Pif has promised to bring the report of the us Commission on the Information Department, the threat by its chief Dr Ezechiel Rhodius, close his side of the story.

#### ith unopposed

of Rhodesia's main political parties plan to put up dates for the 28 white in next month's election. Allegion Ian Smith and his Rhodesian Front. Page 2

#### der fighting

said that fierce fighting continuing near the border, some Chinese troops were racing rather than retreating. The country renewed its for an immediate withdrawal of Chinese forces.

#### ice talks

ab League committee met North Yemeni capital of in a bid to resolve the between North and Yemen. Page 2

#### nb protest

bombs exploded in apparently in response to demands demanding Corsican independence who set off 34 in Corsica and Paris on night.

#### fly . . .

people were killed in falls Lake District mountains, badly damaged part of first prison on the Isle of Page 6

has broadcast its first commercial. men died when their light it crashed in the fog in ham harbour, Sussex. in of West German cargo Jasmin was feared ed after the vessel sank north-west Spain.

o's oldest chapel, near Worth, Cornwall, is to be in sand because cash to be raised to restore it in not police used tear gas patrol about 1,000 Flemish its demonstrating against speakers.

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h steel: Setback to plans The Budget: Outside advice to uneven industry ..... 16 Mr. Healey ..... 25 Week in the Courts ..... 14

ments ..... 28 Letters ..... 25 TV and Radio ..... 14, 5, 6 Lax ..... 15 UK News—general ..... 5, 6, 8 Labour ..... 14 Unit Trusts ..... 22 Lombard ..... 12 Men-and-Matters ..... 26 Overseas ..... 15 Overseas News ..... 27 Weather ..... 28 Economic Ind. ..... 3 Racing ..... 14 Share Information ..... 26 Sports ..... 15 Today's Events ..... 25

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## UK's export edge hit by sterling and labour costs rise

BY PETER RIDDELL, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

The competitive position of British goods has deteriorated significantly in the last six months, according to the indicators officially used for studying prospects for exports of manufactured goods.

This is the result of a combination of a firm—and recently rising—exchange rate and unit labour costs continuing to rise faster in the UK than abroad.

There are, however, no signs yet of any shift in the Government's policy of trying to keep sterling stable.

There are several indicators of competitiveness. Those based on relative export and wholesale prices between the UK and its main trading partners have been unfavourable for some time, while the last six months have seen the erosion of the UK's competitive edge as measured by relative unit labour costs. Both the International Monetary Fund and Government economists regard this as a useful pointer.

Ford captured a 27.78 per cent share of the UK car market last month, but nearly 40 per cent of the new Fords registered were imported. Imported makes accounted for 52.3 per cent of the new cars registered in February, against 47.6 per cent in February 1978. Page 4

Levland Nigeria has opened black Africa's first commercial vehicle plant at Ibadan to produce trucks and Land-Rovers from parts shipped from Britain. Back Page

MECHANICAL engineering industry interests are forming a single body to be known as the Council of Mechanical and Metal Trades, which will represent them in Brussels. Page 4

UNION OIL, the US-based oil group, has agreed under pressure from the Department of Energy to take steps to link the North Sea Heather field with the Far North Liquids and Associated Gas Systems so as to utilise gas reserves. Page 4

MR. GIORGIO MAZZANTI, chairman of the Italian State oil corporation ENI, left Tehran yesterday after two days of talks with the authorities aimed at securing some supplies for the oil companies from Iran after the eviction of the western consortium. Page 2

OIL TANKER charter rates rose last week in response to the resumption of crude deliveries by Iran. Page 3

JAPAN is sending a senior official to Washington this month to settle the problem of Japan's large trade surplus with the U.S.

ALAN LORD, managing director of Dunlop outside Europe, has been appointed chairman of the taxation committee of the Confederation of British Industry. Men and Matters, Page 18

LEIPZIG annual trade fair opened yesterday with over 9,000 concerns taking part.

MINERS' LEADERS are likely to decide this week to put the £72.5m offer to a postal ballot after delegate conferences in Kent and Nottinghamshire rejected it. Back Page

GOODYEAR UK chairman, Mr. West Hansen, has agreed to meet union officials to discuss the closure of the company's Glasgow factory. Unions had threatened action at Goodyear's other British plants unless talks were held.

BL CARS' shop stewards in Birmingham have decided not to take industrial action this week on behalf of craftworkers. Page 6

ELECTRICAL and Plumbing Trades Union has suspended 1,200 members of its London Press branch for refusing to accept an agreement signed by the union's executive covering 92 electricians employed by Times Newspapers. Back Page

BALLAST-NEDAM, the Dutch construction group, reports a 37 per cent increase in 1978 net profits at Fl 24.1m (\$12m) against Fl 17.6m previously while turnover in the year rose 50 per cent. The company has won a Fl 110m deal in the Philippines. Page 27

TEXTILE INDUSTRY leaders in Europe are expressing concern that the EEC Commission has allowed itself to be seriously out-negotiated in the GATT Tokyo-round talks with the U.S. on textile tariffs.

National Governments and the EEC authorities in Brussels are being warned that the Commission's over-eagerness to secure agreement with the Americans has enabled the U.S. to dictate the terms of the deal, nearing agreement after months of offer and counter-offer.

The result, the industrialists claim, may be to give the Europeans still maintaining far higher tariffs than the EEC industry, the chance to increase exports to Europe while still heavily protecting their own market.

European manufacturers had hoped that the talks would lead to a much greater degree of harmonisation of tariffs, bringing those in the U.S. much closer to the lower levels operated by the EEC.

The net effect of the U.S. offer, the European industry claims, will be to reduce U.S. tariffs from 46 per cent higher than European tariffs to 35 per cent higher, on average.

Congress urged to back GATT

was then regarded as uncompromising.

Sterling is now at the same level as 12 months ago, as measured by the trade-weighted index against a basket of other currencies, while there is a gap of roughly seven points between the 13 per cent rise in unit labour costs in the UK and the increase in the seven biggest industrialised countries.

These figures have intensified a continuing debate within Whitehall. Those officials most concerned with the industrial strategy and trade press the claims of a competitive exchange rate while those involved with counter-inflation and monetary policy have been arguing what is known as the virtuous circle view.

This is essentially that a strong and/or stable exchange rate contains inflation both directly by holding down import costs and indirectly by affecting export prices and profits and hence the ability of companies to pay higher wage increases. The hope is that by limiting inflation this will lead to a virtuous circle of improved economic performance.

There has never been a clear-cut split between the two

views. But in spite of doubts in parts of the Treasury, the predominant opinion is that the major switch of policy in 1977-78 towards maintaining a stable rate should be given a chance to work.

This has been strongly urged by Mr. Gordon Richardson, the Governor of the Bank of England, while Mr. Denis Healey, the Chancellor, has repeatedly expressed scepticism.

There is now much more emphasis on problems on the supply side and non-price influences on competitiveness.

It is, however, recognised that the increased demand for sterling in foreign exchange markets in the last month could create problems in reconciling the goals of fighting inflation, maintaining competitiveness and containing the growth of the money supply.

But the strains are not

nearly as serious as in the autumn of 1977 since the demand for the pound over the last month has mainly been reflected in the rate-up 21 per cent since early February—

with only limited capital inflows so far. So there is no immediate threat to monetary control.

## Liberals and SNP seek 1p tax cut

By Elinor Goodman, Lobby Staff

The Scottish Nationalists and the Liberals are likely to try to force a reduction of 1p or more in income-tax during the debate on the Budget next month.

The nationalists are expected to make their intentions clear today at the start of a week during which the parliamentary constraints on Mr. Denis Healey, the Chancellor should become clear. At the same time, the Government is expected to make informal contacts with the Opposition parties—including possibly the Conservatives—to see whether there is any possible room for compromise over devolution.

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## OVERSEAS NEWS

# Elections closer in Italy after parties disagree

BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN ROME

CHANCES OF avoiding early general elections in Italy this spring effectively vanished over the weekend with a fresh wave of violence and with what looked like a final breach between the Christian Democrats and the Communists (PCI).

The collapse of any lingering hope of a new understanding between the two largest parties, supported by nearly 75 per cent of the electorate, makes it virtually certain that the government to be formed by Sig. Giulio Andreotti, the Prime Minister designate, will fall in Parliament.

In that case his stillborn administration would have the job of presiding over elections—possibly on either May 6 or May 13—more than two years before Parliament's five-year term was due to expire in June, 1981.

However, the parting of the ways between Christian Democrats (CD) and Communists has been overshadowed by a renewed series of terrorist activities up and down the country, almost exactly one year after the kidnapping and murder of

former Premier Sig. Aldo Moro, by the Red Brigade.

The most serious was in Palermo where on Friday night gunmen from the Prima Linea (front line) urban guerrilla group ambushed and killed Sig. Michele Reina, the provincial organizer for the Christian Democrats. It is the first time that terrorist, as opposed to Mafia, violence has appeared in Sicily.

Prima Linea also claims responsibility for the murder of an 18-year-old student in Turin. Meanwhile political terrorists may have been behind the kidnapping in Rome of a local CD official Sig. Emilio Falco who was released yesterday after a gun battle in the southern city of Potenza.

The rift between Christian Democrats and Communists was sealed when Sig. Benigno Zaccagnini the Christian Democrat secretary described as "unacceptable" the conditions laid down by the PCI for their endorsement of a government containing Left-wing independent ministers.

At a meeting with Sig. Andreotti, the Communist

## U.S. planes 'embarrass' the Saudis

By James Buchan in Jeddah

AS TWO U.S. Airborne Warning and Aircraft Control Systems (AWACS) arrived in Saudi Arabia over the weekend and the aircraft carrier USS Constellation steamed toward the Gulf, the Saudi Press took an increasingly hostile tone on the escalation of U.S. involvement in the Arabian peninsula.

The AWACS arrived from Okinawa on Saturday. U.S. officials confirmed to monitor aircraft activity in the border crisis between North Yemen and Marxist South Yemen. The Constellation is due to arrive on Wednesday.

The Mecca newspaper Al-Nadwa said that with the despatch of the Constellation "the United States is embarrassing its friends." The "outdated Union" would give the Soviet Union a pretext to "send its warships from the Indian Ocean to South Yemen."

While the comments were clearly related to reservations about President Carter's new round of proposals for the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, there was thought to be official disquiet over the lack of consultation over the despatch of the AWACS.

Richard Johns adds: "The Saudi Government is in an awkward predicament. It feels the need for U.S. support but is embarrassed about it at a time when President Carter may

be on the verge of bringing about an Egypt-Israel treaty unacceptable to most of the West with which the kingdom has aligned itself.

Michael Tingay writes from Sanaa: "Arab foreign ministers arrived here yesterday to try to settle the conflict between the two Yemens as North Yemen said that its troops had crossed the border and surrounded rebel and South Yemeni positions.

The Arab League's ceasefire committee continued talks aimed at implementing the ceasefire which has clearly not held. Reports of the fighting are sketchy but North Yemeni forces appear to have established themselves in positions from which they can prevent the retreat of the rebel National Democratic Front and South Yemeni forces.

In a move to lend support to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and the Government led by Mr. Mehdji Bazargan. Yesterday Western-dressed women demonstrated in Tehran for the third time in four days. Several marchers were injured in clashes with pro-Islamic bystanders, and militiamen fired

over the heads of demonstrators.

Originally the demonstrations reflected fears that strict Islamic legislation would reduce women to second-class citizens, but a broader, secular and nationalist opposition in support of a simple Iranian republic has now emerged, mainly among the middle classes.

The women's demands are that the chador, the full-length veil, should not be compulsory; that they should have equal rights and pay with men; and that the Family Protection Law, which gives rights over the custody of children and divorce to women, should not be changed.

In a move to lend support to the provisional Government of Mr. Bazargan, Dr. Ibrahim Yazdi, the assistant to the Prime Minister for revolutionary affairs, has announced that all revolutionary committees would be gradually dissolved, and their duties transferred to the Government.

The foreign minister of Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, and Syria were expected in Sanaa yesterday, as well as the PLO.

## Teamsters pay talks pose test for Carter anti-inflation policy

By JOHN WYLES IN NEW YORK

THE CARTER Administration's economic policies are facing a stern test over the next week or so with trucking industry pay negotiations moving into a critical phase against the background of fast running inflation.

When it launched its pay and price restraint guidelines last October, the Administration hoped to be able to point to some progress in slowing the rate of price increases by the time the truckers' pay talks moved into their final stages. But the lack of achievement was underlined by last week's publication of a 10 per cent annual rate of increase in wholesale prices during February.

The Government has looked no more effective on the legislative front where its proposals

to insure the wages of workers who have settled within the 7 per cent guidelines against a higher than 7 per cent inflation rate are stalled in the Congress.

As a result the Administration is fast realising that it has little with which to encourage the Teamsters' union, which represents 300,000 truck drivers, to make a moderate settlement when its current three-year contract expires on March 31.

If the Teamsters settlement does seriously breach the guidelines then the President has little hope of securing the 7 per cent annual pay and benefit increases looked for from negotiations over the next few months in the rubber, food processing and automobile industries.

According to reliable, but unconfirmed, reports, at the end of last week the Teamsters spelled out their pay demands and demanded that China end its aid projects in Laos and withdraw its experts, AP reports from Tokyo.

A commentary in the official newspaper People's Daily, broadcast by the official news agency, accused Vietnam and the Soviet Union of "enslaving the Lao people."

The commentary added: "To clamp down on the Lao people's resistance and step up their control of Laos, the Vietnamese authorities deliberately spread the lie of the so-called Chinese preparations for a 'war of aggression' against Laos in order to find a pretext for themselves to take action."

### Amin counter-attacks

Conflicting reports of the fighting in Uganda are coming into Nairobi, but it is clear that President Idi Amin is continuing his counter-offensive against Tanzanian troops and Uganda rebels who have been trying to reach the capital Kampala. John Worrell writes from Nairobi. During the weekend Uganda radio claimed the enemy had been pushed back well over 70 miles from Kampala.

### Afghan rebels unite

Three extreme Muslim rebel groups fighting in Afghanistan claimed yesterday that the socialist regime of Mr. Taraki was in control only of Kabul and major urban centres in the country and only "one last push" was needed to make it fall. Chris Sherwell writes from Karachi. In an unprecedented press conference in Rawalpindi, the three groups—usually rivals—declared that they shared a common goal of overthrowing the Soviet-backed Taraki regime.

### France Chad pull-out

France has ordered the evacuation from Chad of all military dependents and advised all French civilians to leave the country, torn by a month-long civil war. AP reports from N'Djamena. Several hundred Europeans, mostly French, were airlifted out of N'Djamena last month shortly after fighting broke out in the city.

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## Botha hits back at Rhoodie

By QUENTIN PEEL IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICA'S Information Department scandal, over the secret propaganda war waged by Dr. Eschel Rhodie, the Department's former chief, has suddenly resurfaced as a threat to the stability of the National Party Government and the new Prime Minister, Mr. F. W. Botha.

The threat of disclosure by Dr. Rhodie of his side of the story, and detailed allegations by him of Cabinet complicity in the affair, have galvanized Mr. Botha and his Cabinet colleagues into a counter-offensive against both Dr. Rhodie and Opposition newspapers publishing his story.

At the same time the deep divisions which the scandal has opened up within the ruling National Party—forcing the resignation of Dr. Connie Mulder, the former Information Minister, but also de facto leader of the party's conservative wing—have caused the expulsions of leading MP of the more liberal faction.

Mr. Botha issued an angry statement at the weekend, promising to bring forward the report of the Erasmus commission of inquiry into the former Information Department and to instruct the commission to investigate the "unequalled smear campaign" being waged by Dr. Rhodie and the Opposi-

tion Press. He also gave a clear indication of the embarrassment the scandal, concerning the misspending of huge amounts of money earmarked for secret projects, is still causing his regime by attacking Dr. Mulder himself. "It is now clear to the country on what sort of friends Dr. Mulder used to waste the country's money through irregular means in schemes which they would not allow to see the light of day," he said.

He was joined in the counter-offensive by Mr. Jimmy Kruger, the Minister of Police, said by Dr. Rhodie to have confirmed that the Cabinet knew about the Information Department's activities before the general election of November, 1977. Mr. Kruger announced that he intended suing the newspapers which carried the claim.

**Rhodesian Front set to win uncontested poll victory**

By TONY HAWKINS IN SALISBURY

MR. IAN SMITH'S ruling Rhodesian Front is expected to take all 28 white seats in next month's Rhodesian elections without a contest. Nomination day is today and all other political parties have said they will not be contesting the white seats.

Opposition politicians and national leaders here are privately appalled at Mr. Smith's apparent belief that he can trade his own retirement from politics for international recognition. Some observers here believe that Mr. Smith's continued presence in the multi-racial government after the voting will make it more difficult than ever to bring together the internal and external nationalist at some conference aimed at ending the war and producing a revised constitution.

## The tax deal of the century.

Ireland announces a new deal for manufacturing industry. No tax on Export Profits until 1990, then a maximum of 10% on all profits to the end of the century.

**REPUBLIC OF IRELAND**  
The most profitable industrial location in Europe.

US Department of Commerce statistics for the period '74-'77 show a 28% average annual return on investment for US manufacturers located in the Republic of Ireland—more than twice the European average.

**IDA Ireland**  INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
The Irish government's industrial development agency.  
has offices in London at 58 Davies St., London W1Y 1LB.  
Telephone Hugh Alston at 01-629 5941.

IDA Ireland also has offices in Dublin, Amsterdam; Paris, Cologne, Stuttgart, Milan, Copenhagen, Madrid, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Houston, Toronto, Sydney and Tokyo.

## Laos seeks to break China ties

CHINA SAID yesterday that Laos, under Soviet and Vietnamese pressure, has torn up Sino-Laotian agreements and demanded that China end its aid projects in Laos and withdraw its experts, AP reports from Tokyo.

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## WORLD TRADE NEWS

JAPAN

# Japan to drop emergency aircraft leasing scheme

BY YOKO SHIBATA IN TOKYO

JAPAN'S MINISTRY of Finance has decided to drop the leasing of aircraft to foreign airlines from its new \$2bn worth emergency import package scheduled to operate from April 1 to the end of September this year, due to criticism of the programme. This means that the government is again unlikely to meet its emergency imports target—there will be a shortfall of around \$1.2bn in the current financial year's target of \$4bn.

The wide margin between interest rates on the government's foreign currency loans from the Export-Import Bank of Japan to leasing companies and the companies' charge to airlines has been criticised in the current diet (parliament) session. According to the opposition parties, interest rates on foreign currency loans from the Ex-Im Bank is fixed as low as 6 per cent per annum, while leasing companies charge interest rates of 8.25 per cent to the foreign airlines. This 2.25 per cent interest spread has resulted in windfall profits of as much as \$3.87bn for leasing companies which have leased 25 aircraft since the scheme was first implemented on April 1, 1978. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ippai Kaneko, had

pledged to review the current aircraft leasing system and to revise its interest rates to a reasonable level.

The Ministry of Finance says the interest rate on the Ex-Im Bank loans was fixed as low as 6 per cent so as to finance the purchase of commodities such as iron pellet and precious metals for stockpiling, not for profiteering by leasing companies.

The Ministry has simultaneously turned down the U.S. demand that its airlines should be able to take equal advantage of the aircraft leasing scheme as do other countries. The Ministry says that extending the scheme to American air-

## China steel project delayed 'indefinitely'

TOKYO—China has notified Nippon Steel of its decision to postpone indefinitely the expansion of the Wuhan steel works, the company told the Kyodo News Service.

It said the project called for the expansion of the plant's current capacity of 2.5m tonnes to 6m tonnes a year under China's Import Corporation. AP-DJ

capacity to 60m tonnes by 1985 as the nucleus of its industrial modernisation programme.

NSC was making preparations to send a team of experts to the Wuhan steel works soon to make feasibility studies on the expansion project at the request of the China National Technical Import Corporation.

## U.S. may lower TV import duty

BY RICHARD C. HANSON IN TOKYO

JAPANESE TELEVISION manufacturers expect the U.S. Treasury today to agree to substantially reduce its anti-dumping duty assessment on shipments of TV sets in the early 1970s, but appear ready to go to court if it does not.

In either case, the decade-old anti-dumping dispute is far from being resolved to the satisfaction of the U.S. Congress and TV industry of the Japanese, who have argued vigorously that they are not being treated fairly.

The Japanese industry, however, is confident that it will win a considerable concession from the Treasury's Customs Service which on March 31 last year said the Japanese would have to pay \$46m in penalties on sets exported from September 1970 to June 1973. A favourable ruling based on new data provided by the Japanese in January

would also defuse the threat of an estimated \$400m in anti-dumping duties on TV exports from 1977.

The Treasury is expected to notify early this week each maker (excluding Sony Corporation which was dropped from the proceedings some time earlier) of the amount it must pay for the earlier period. The Treasury has told the Japanese that there will not be a further postponement on that decision, the last 45-day delay having been put into effect on January 26.

The dilemma at the Treasury comes down to how it will placate Congress (which has been clamouring for action against the Japanese makers) and at the same time distract the public from taking such action which the Japanese contend is unfair and arbitrary.

Since the total import of Japanese TV sets comes to around \$2bn, the Treasury estimated the margin of dumping based on the 20 per cent formula would be \$400m.

The U.S. Customs Service resorted to this measure because the time consuming process of assessing the true value of sets sold in Japan through detailed examination of records had put them years behind in making actual dumping assessments.

## Joint UK-E. German venture

By Guy Hawtin in Frankfurt

THE FIRST joint venture in third countries between a British company and an East German enterprise has been concluded. Many such schemes have been mooted since Britain recognised the GDR six years ago, but up until now none have got off the ground.

Japan's emergency import programme aimed at trimming the trade surplus, will only reach \$2.8bn in the fiscal year ending this month, well short of its original target of \$4bn. The shortfall is largely attributed to failure to carry out imports of uranium and prepayment for imports of crude oil for stockpiling (targeted at \$1.6bn) and imports of crude oil for stockpiling (at \$645m) due to political difficulties in Iran and the rise in oil prices.

An interesting feature of the joint venture is that it is a direct one between the British company and VEB Polygraph Leipzig which produces the Planeta presses. Unitechne, the GDR foreign trade enterprise specialising in technical products, acted as the middle man in the deal rather than direct partner. Advisors to Beck and Politzer were Metzler Handelschaft, an associate of B. Metzler Sohn, the Frankfurt merchant bankers.

The agreement is open-ended but if things work out satisfactorily there will be a broadening of both the markets and the type of machinery that Beck and Politzer will be installing. At the start of the three-year "build-up" period British engineers will be trained at Planeta's Dresden works and, initially, British and GDR engineers will work side by side.

Beck and Politzer has the sole rights to install, repair and transfer Planeta sheet offset presses in the markets covered by the agreement. But the British concern, which has wide experience in the installation of printing machinery, remains free to contract for similar work from other manufacturers.

Talks that led to the deal first started at last year's Leipzig Fair in March. They were completed particularly quickly for deals of this type and work started in October, 1978, with Beck and Politzer installing Planeta machinery in Libya.

It is hard to put a price on a deal of this type—an open-ended agreement implies a long term relationship, the value of which, in times of high inflation, is hard to quantify. However, the equipment involved should amount to several millions of pounds over the period.

## Congress urged to back GATT

BY DAVID BUCHAN IN WASHINGTON

THE IMPORTANCE of a new world trade pact may not lie in the cuts it would make in tariff and non-tariff barriers but in its ability to stop individual countries from slapping more restrictions on each others' exports, according to the U.S. Congressional Budget Office.

This warning of the need to head off the "new protectionism" comes in a study of the GATT trade negotiations, the first such report by an arm of the U.S. Congress, which later this year will have to vote on the agreement being negotiated in Geneva.

Under the 1974 Trade Act, Congress cannot amend—only approve or reject—any accord negotiated by the Administration, a restriction introduced because Congress maulled parts of the previous trade agreement in the "Kennedy round."

The fate of the Geneva agreement will nonetheless hang on the decision of Congress, which is now often independent-minded.

The CBO report points out that the agreement's effect on jobs, inflation and the U.S. trade deficit will be relatively small. Employment changes will affect only one-tenth of 1 per cent of

the workforce, but unevenly. Higher technology sectors, concentrated in the south, west or midwest areas should gain, while labour-intensive industries in the north and east using technology which can easily be copied by international competitors, may suffer. This will inevitably colour attitudes of the congressmen and senators from those areas.

While the report says that tariff cuts should recoup the cost of re-allocating labour and capital from one sector to another in one or two years, it comments that the trade pact stands little chance in Congress unless accompanied by more generous aid to workers and industries hit by competition from abroad.

Imports will not be much cheaper after a Geneva agreement, which, the report says, looks like cutting tariffs by 30 to 40 per cent over eight to ten years. The average tariff rate is 6 per cent of all imports, so a GATT accord will shave only 2 to 3 per cent off import prices over several years. The reduction in U.S. inflation would be only 0.5 per cent over the same long period.

Price changes in world trade

will be "minuscule," the Congressional study says, compared with those caused by exchange rate fluctuations.

The CBO favours a Geneva accord on the strong political grounds that it cements cooperation between the U.S. and its European and Japanese trading partners and also the developing world. But it warns that a GATT agreement would not eliminate any of the three main causes of the large U.S. trade deficit: slow economic growth abroad with sluggish demand for U.S. goods, oil imports, and persistent American inflation making exports less competitive.

The Carter Administration, and particularly Mr. Robert Strauss, its senior trade negotiator, has said that the subsidies code being negotiated in Geneva is a prime reason why Congress should back the agreement. The CBO report discusses the evils of trade subsidies, citing this British Government's bankrolling of its ailing steel company as one example.

But it claims that what comes out of Geneva is not likely to be clear agreement on which kinds of Government practices are acceptable and which are not,

but rather on a mechanism for resolving subsidy disputes.

Two important gaps in the Geneva negotiations, the CBO says, concern practices of State-trading countries (which for the most part are not GATT members), and the increasing number of bilateral trade deals struck between two countries or one country and a company in another country. Such deals are discriminatory against third countries, it says.

## Argentina sells wheat to China

By Robert Lindley in Buenos Aires CHINA HAS agreed to purchase 890,000 tons of this year's Argentine wheat crop, according to sources close to the Economy Ministry.

A four-man Chinese mission has just returned to Peking after spending five days in Argentina.

The purchase fits into the terms of an agreement signed in Peking last year by Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz, Economy Minister, and Chinese officials during the Minister's visit to China.

## Soviet-Indian rice-oil deal

By K. K. Sharma in New Delhi

THE SOVIET UNION has agreed to step up its supplies of crude oil to India by 600,000 tonnes in exchange for an equivalent amount of rice. This was one of the principal conclusions of talks here during the past two days between Mr. Alexei Kosygin and Mr. Morarji Desai, the Soviet and Indian Prime Ministers.

The barter deal helps India, whose grain storage facilities are severely strained as a result of four consecutive good harvests. Grain stocks are now over 17m tonnes. Mr. Kosygin initially wanted wheat but readily agreed to Mr. Desai's proposal that the Russians accept rice since India is already committed to supply wheat to Vietnam and wants to build up a buffer stock.

Details of a long-term economic cooperation agreement will be announced on Wednesday, a day before Mr. Kosygin leaves for Moscow.

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## UK NEWS

# Imports aid Ford to recoup losses after hard struggle

BY KENNETH GOODING, MOTOR INDUSTRY CORRESPONDENT

FORD struggled hard to regain lost ground in the UK new car market last month. Figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders today show that it captured a 27.78 per cent share.

It succeeded, however, only by drawing substantially on imported vehicles. Of the 37,062 new Fords registered last month, 14,512, nearly two-fifths, were imported.

For the first two months of this year, as Ford built up production in the UK, still suffering the after-effects of last autumn's nine-week strike, more than 43 per cent of the 74,027 new Fords registered were assembled outside the UK.

According to the trade, Ford increased its marketing pressure last month with attractive deals for volume fleet buyers. That effort helped to buoy up new car sales that otherwise were suffering from the bad weather: private buyers do not like to take delivery when there is ice about.

New car sales last month, at 133,397, were 4,000 lower than year with much less stock and therefore fewer marketing opportunities. The Japanese share of last month's market was down from 12.81 per cent to 9.38 per cent and for the two-month period from nearly 13 per cent to just over 9 per cent last year.

Imported cars continued with a very high market share, 52.3 per cent in February, before 47.6 per cent 12 months ago.

Ford was not the only "domestic" manufacturer with many imports among its sales. Chrysler imported about one-third of the 3,180 cars it registered last month, with the "Car of the Year," the French-made Horizon, continuing to do well.

Only 14 per cent of Vauxhall's sales were of imports.

BL had a quiet month, possibly reflecting Ford's determination to pick up all the fleet sales it could and the absence of many private buyers.

Its market share last month, 20.57 per cent, was well below that for February last year, 24.9 per cent, and for last year as a whole, when it topped 23 per cent.

## UK CAR REGISTRATIONS

	February		Two months ended February		1979	%	1978	%
	1979	%	1978	%				
Total UK produced	63,617	47.69	71,931	52.38	135,702	46.86	148,047	51.11
Total imported	69,780	52.31	65,401	47.62	153,916	53.14	141,435	48.89
Total market	133,397	100.00	137,332	100.00	289,618	100.00	289,482	100.00
Ford*	37,062	27.78	36,598	26.65	74,027	25.56	82,333	28.42
BL—Austin Morris	21,706		26,890		51,837		50,634	
—Jaguar Rover Triumph	5,732		7,304		15,082		16,082	
Total BL	27,438	20.57	34,194	24.90	66,919	23.11	66,716	23.03
PSA-Chrysler*	10,458		8,484		21,855		16,703	
—Citroen	3,271		2,477		6,266		5,288	
—Peugeot	2,753		2,126		6,610		4,568	
Total PSA	16,482	12.35	13,087	9.53	34,831	12.03	26,559	9.18
GM-Vauxhall*	10,090		9,476		20,607		19,050	
—Opel	1,954		1,249		4,457		2,936	
—Other GM	87		20		163		34	
Total GM	12,131	9.09	10,745	7.82	25,227	8.71	22,020	7.60
Datsun	7,208	5.40	10,743	7.82	15,615	5.39	23,972	8.28
Fiat	5,861	4.39	7,184	5.23	12,486	4.31	13,891	4.80
Renault	7,435	5.57	5,754	4.19	15,223	5.26	12,585	4.34
VW/Audi	4,961	3.72	4,097	2.98	12,922	4.46	9,926	3.43

\* includes cars from companies' Continental associates which are not included in the total UK figures.

† includes imports from all sources, including cars from Continental associates of UK companies.

## Industry seeks UK voice in Brussels

By Hazel Duffy,  
Industrial Correspondent

THE DIVERSE interests of the mechanical engineering industry are in process of forming a single representative council to strengthen their representation in Brussels. Their council, to be called the Council of Mechanical and Metal Trades, is expected to be launched in about two months.

The Engineering Employers' Federation, in a co-ordinating role, has sent invitations to 13 trade associations, of which there are 250 in the industry.

That reflects the group's new success with the RIB mid-range saloon, just launched in the UK.

However, the list of best-selling individual models in February has a familiar look.

Top was the Ford Cortina, with sales of 15,513, followed by the Ford Escort, 11,490; Austin Morris Mini, 6,352; Morris Marina, 5,409; Austin Allegro, 4,530; Vauxhall Cavalier, 3,882; Ford Granada, 3,780; Ford Fiesta, 3,313; Austin Morris Maxi, 3,070 and Ford Capri, 2,974.

The proposed new body will be more modest, having probably a two-tier structure with a working board of trade association representatives chaired by the Employers' Federation, which will provide the secretariat.

In Brussels it will become a member of ORGALIME, the organisation representing the engineering industry in 15 countries of Western Europe. The electrical engineering industry's trade body is a member of this.

Areas where the British industry wants to put a united view include product liability, membership of the EEC by Spain, a growing competitor; technical barriers to trade, contract conditions and conditions of sale, and re-organisation of European steel, which will affect pricing.

The move to organise the industry on these lines is recognised in Whitehall. Sir Peter Carey, Permanent Secretary to the Department of Industry, has been invited to attend the first meeting of the new body.

## Guardian Royal Exchange to raise Motor premiums

BY ERIC SHORT

ABOUT 1m motorists insured with Guardian Royal Exchange, the second largest motor insurer in the UK, face a rise in their premiums from the beginning of next month.

The company is lifting premiums by an average of 12 per cent and is also introducing two major changes in its rating structure.

Premiums for business cars have been set on a geographical basis, the same as for ordinary cars, instead of on a flat rate.

This reflects the growing use of business cars in the overall

remuneration package of employees. The company has also

changed the rating for Coventry and Edinburgh and increases in these two cities will be lower than average.

Guardian Royal Exchange last increased its rates on April 1, 1978 by 14 per cent. Growing pressures on motor accounts from the increasing numbers of claims and rising claim costs have forced several other insurance companies, including Eagle Star and Royal, to revise premiums more than once a year.

The company hopes to be able to hold the new rates steady over the next 12 months, in spite of the adverse experience of this winter. The increase was based on claims earlier in the year. The company will not be able to count the cost of motor accidents arising from icy roads until garages have been able to deal with the excessive number of repairs.

As an example of the effect of this latest increase, a mature driver owning a Ford Escort, living in a provincial town, and who is eligible for full no claims discount (Guardian pays a maximum of 65 per cent) will now find his annual premium rising to £56 from £50.40—an increase of 11.1 per cent.

## Overseas exhibitors dominate food show

BY CHRISTOPHER PARKES

BRITISH COMPANIES at the International Food Exhibition, which opens in the Grand Hall, Olympia this morning, will be heavily outnumbered by the 480 overseas exhibitors from 33 countries.

None of the leading British food manufacturers will be there in force, but Common Market competitors have spent heavily on displays and sales teams to tempt buyers representing retail, wholesale and catering interests for the UK and abroad.

The Irish Export Board has spent about £100,000 on helping build up a national section in which 23 Irish food and drink companies and four food marketing boards will exhibit.

## Range

Products range from "fast-foods"—a hamburger which cooks in 35 seconds—to Irish spaghetti and whiskey-flavoured salami from Co. Carlow.

It was suggested the lack of enthusiasm among UK manufacturers stemmed from the depression in the industry. The food market has been virtually static or falling since 1974 and margins have shrunk alarmingly.

However, consumer spending on food in the UK reached almost £17bn last year. It accounted for some 19 per cent of all household outgoings and now overseas suppliers aim to increase their market share.

Denmark, notably its dairy trade, hopes to increase food sales in the UK by 10 per cent this year.

## Discussions

At a conference run in parallel with the show there will be papers and discussions on the fast-food companies' challenge to supermarkets, ways for small independent shop owners to compete with the multinationals and opening in France for British food exports.

The trade-only show opens at noon and will open for the rest of the week at 9.30 am closing on Friday at 4 pm.

## Architects plead for warehouse but demolition threat is denied

BY RHYS DAVID, NORTHERN CORRESPONDENT



The 19th-century warehouse in Manchester, described as of great architectural importance.

Robinson company, which owns the site.

The architects, in their letter, say that the outstanding feature of the warehouse design was its two separate but connected goods stations, one above the other, each with marshalling yards, and connected to roads and the canal system.

The council said yesterday that it had no plans to demolish the warehouse and Mr. George Robinson said that his new arrangements with the council meant that he was not in a position, as the architects had stated, to plan demolition of the building.

The council hoped to be consulted before any decision was taken to list the building. It said that talks were being held with Manchester City Council, another interested party, on a planning brief

covering the whole area.

Central Station and the Great Northern Warehouse are on short leases to National Car Parks.

The letter declares that a ready use exists for the building as a multi-storey car park. "National Car Parks are ready and anxious to use the building in its entirety for car parking."

It is understood that the building will leave the external appearance of the building unchanged.

Mr. Gordon Michell, one of the signatories of the letter, said yesterday. The work would cost about £500,000.

## The future is certain for La Défense.

Le Figaro - December 12, 1978  
"La revanche de La Défense"  
(La Défense takes its revenge)

Le Monde - October 18, 1978  
"La relance de l'opération de La Défense"  
(The boost in operation at La Défense)

Les Echos - October 12, 1978  
"Le quartier de La Défense sera poursuivi et terminé, décide le Gouvernement"  
(The Government decides to carry out development at La Défense until completion)

Today, one thing is certain: La Défense shall be carried out completely, and the headlines above bear witness to this fact.

Time to resolve the problems facing the EPAD (Etablissement Public pour l'Aménagement de La Défense) and the Centre de Commerces et de Loisirs des "Quatre Temps" shall not have been spent in vain. Public authorities and opinion have come to realise the importance, the weight, and the irreversible character of this daring operation in urbanism.

The program of La Défense/ decreed by public authorities, as presented by Mr. d'Ornano, Minister of the Environment and Living Standards (October 16, 1978).

"Development of the La Défense area will continue at as rapid a pace as possible, in view of the priorities given to new towns, with an effort to negotiate contracts for at least 1,200,000 m² of office space in the next 5 years".

To bring this about involves:

- Improvement of mass transit service and lines extending from the Pont de Neuilly to La Défense.

- Improvement of roadways and highways serving the area:

- 1980: side lanes for the A86 between Pont de Chatou and Pont de Rouen.

- 1982: the A14 under La Défense.

- 1982: left bank expressway along the Seine between the Pont de Puteaux and Pont de Neuilly.

- General environmental improvements.

The decisions taken concerning its achievement are due to one obvious fact: La Défense is very much a living reality. With 15,000 residents and 40,000 employed, it's already a small city.

La Défense is part of the organized growth of the City of Paris and was created as a commercial pole for an urban zone containing 110,000 inhabitants. The need for such a pole can no longer be denied.

It is now the responsibility of those involved to give the operation warmth and character, to make sure that it shall not only live but that it shall also be a nice place to live in.

Yet, signs already point to success.

Let us review some of the recent highlights.

The Interministerial Committee which met on October 16, 1978 came to definite decisions concerning a boost in the office building program, the improvement of access, the environment as a whole, and the completion of the shopping center.

Some of these decisions have already been put into effect. In December 1978, the S.E.E.R.I. began construction of an office building of 12,000 m² which should be finished by mid 1980. Negotiations are now well in progress concerning 200,000 m² of office space: City bank, moving from the Champs-Elysées, shall set up offices on 21,000 m² of this space in a building located on the terrace of the shopping center.

The construction program undertaken

## UK NEWS

دكتامن الأجل

# Inland Revenue aces all-party investigation

ELINOR GOODMAN, LOBBY STAFF

Inland Revenue is to be public expenditure White-  
igated by an all-party Paper, has already touched on  
series of inquiries by the Inland  
Revenue as part of its wider  
sub-committee of the Civil Service.  
It now feels the time is right  
for a more specific investigation  
into the workings of the Inland Revenue.

The Mps may well look at the  
whole question of tax evasion  
and the way the Revenue uses  
its powers to obtain information  
about tax dodging. Given  
the economic implications of  
Government spending, it also  
seems bound to study the progress being made to computerise  
the collection of PAYE.

## Raise smoke, drink duty'

OUR CONSUMER AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

**SE DUTIES** on tobacco should be increased to pay for higher personal allowances, the National Consumer Council said yesterday in its submission to the Exchequer next month's Budget. The council says, in the sub-  
n that cigarettes and are "relatively cheap"  
red with a few years ago,  
Excise duties on them historically low levels in terms.  
believes that increasing consumption "in a  
d and selective way" help meet the cost of tax thresholds for the t of the low-paid.  
council says that to take  
t of distortions caused by

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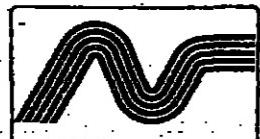
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# Sea gas link agreed

BY SUE CAMERON

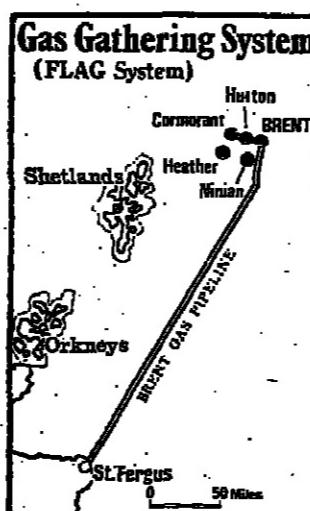
THE DEPARTMENT of Energy has persuaded the U.S.-based Union Oil to agree to take the first steps towards linking the North Sea Heather field with the FLAGS (Far North Liquids and Associated Gas System).

Union, which operates the Heather field, is understood to have agreed in principle to T-junction in the western leg of the FLAGS (Far North Liquids and Associated Gas System).

That will enable the company to build a gas pipeline from Heather to FLAGS later if it decides to do so.

Heather has only a little gas and Union is believed to oppose linking the field to FLAGS for economic reasons. However, the Government determined to make fullest use of all North Sea resources, has been putting strong pressure on the company to join Heather to the system.

The department has been permitting the company to flare Heather gas monthly instead of



quarterly, as usual. It is understood to have threatened to withhold flaring permits altogether unless Union agrees to gather Heather gas.

The long-standing row has

come to a head because work on the western leg of the FLAGS line is to start today, weather permitting.

The 130m western leg will go from the Brent A platform to the Cormorant A platform. It will be connected to the existing Brent pipeline to the St Fergus terminal, Scotland.

Proposals also exist to link the Hutton and Minin fields to the western leg of the FLAGS line for an estimated further £30m.

The only one of the five fields rich in gas is Brent. The others are likely to start running out of gas altogether towards the mid-1980s.

The advantage of the gas-gathering system is that fields linked to it will be able to use Brent gas to power their rigs once their own gas runs out. But Shell/Essco, the Brent operators, say that the western leg of the FLAGS line will not make money.

## Subsidies 'will not regenerate industry'

By Peter Riddell,  
Economics Correspondent

THE CONTINUATION of extensive and growing subsidies to industry is likely to bring about "highly counter-productive" changes in the working of the economic system, according to a study published this morning by Sir Keith Joseph's Centre for Policy Studies.

The author, Mr. John Burton, a lecturer at Kingston Polytechnic, argues that the results of Government subsidies are "far from offering the prospect of industrial regeneration."

Mr. Burton's study examines the supposed rationale for government subsidisation of industry and analyses its consequence.

He says that the "subsidy morass" has advanced with such speed that its true nature is not fully realised either by the general public or by the economic profession.

Work-sharing is the hallmark of such a programme. Risk-sharing partnerships have been agreed between British Aerospace and Avco.

Mr. Burton says that far from solving the problems of employment, efficiency and growth the results of Government subsidies are self-defeating.

For the Job Support Machine: *A Critique of the Subsidy Morass*, by John Burton, Centre for Policy Studies, 8, Wilfrid Street, London SW1E 6PL, £3.75 (hardback) and £2.55 (softback).

# British Aerospace may soon receive feeder-liner orders

By MICHAEL DONNE, AEROSPACE CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH AEROSPACE hopes to be able to secure its first orders for the new Type 146 four-engined feeder-liner—the £250m programme given the go-ahead by the Government last year.

The nationalised aircraft group says that it has visited more than 50 airlines looking for orders, and has found at least five potential customers with an ultimate fleet requirement of 40 aircraft. They will need early delivery dates, beginning in 1982. Their names are not disclosed.

But Mr. Cyril Bethwaite, project director for the Type 146, says in the group's staff newspaper that "the overall picture is encouraging, and we can see a definite acceptance in the market of our specification."

Work-sharing is the hallmark of this new civil aircraft programme. Risk-sharing partnerships have been agreed between British Aerospace and Avco. Aerostuctures of the U.S., which will build the wings, while Saab in Sweden will make some of the moving parts on the wings and tail-plane. Avco Lycoming of the U.S. is providing the jet engines.

The main construction work will be done in the group's own factories. Hatfield is building the front nose assembly and cabin doors, Bristol, the fuselage centre-section, Manchester the aft-fuselage, Brough the wing-flaps, controls and tail-fin sections, and Scottish Aviation the engine pylons.

## Planning call for medicines centre

THE STERLING WINTHROP Group has applied for planning permission to build a pharmaceutical research and development centre in Northumberland employing 200 people. It would be part of research to discover prescription medicines for many human disorders.

The group is seeking permission to build on two sites, at Alnwick and Cramlington, and will choose one if the county council gives its approval. The proposal has led to protests from residents on environmental grounds and the RSPCA objecting to use of live animals.

## Nuclear plant risk to Guernsey 'small'

THE GUERNSEY authorities have consulted the UK National Radiological Board about likely health risks to islanders from discharge of radioactive gas krypton-85 from the La Hague plant.

In an advisory note to Guernsey Civil Defence Committee, published today, the National Radiological Board concludes that health risks from this source are "extremely small".

Based on a projected annual

discharge of nine megacuries of krypton-85 from the La Hague plant, it is estimated that chances of harmful effects in Alderney, 11 miles away, would be at least 1,000 times less than "other risks regularly accepted in everyday life," and to Guernsey or Jersey, 35 miles away, five times less again.

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## CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

GOVERNMENT OF LESOTHO

### PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW MASERU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The Government of Lesotho proposes to invite tenders in mid 1979 for the construction of new Maseru International Airport at Thota ea Molit near Maseru. The project will be financed by EDF, BADEA, Kuwait Fund and other agencies.

The work will be divided into the following contracts:

1. Civil Works
2. Buildings
3. Electrical Lighting
4. Communications and Navigational Aids
5. Firefighting vehicles and equipment.

Contractors wishing to be considered for inclusion in the short-list of tenderers for anyone or more of the above contracts should submit their applications to:

**NACO**  
P.O.Box 1688,  
Maseru 100, Lesotho

not later than 12 April 1979.

Applications should include the following information:

1. List of similar works carried out during the past five years in Africa and outside, giving the contract scope, value of work and agency for whom the work was carried out, and a list of works in hand at present.
2. Copy of last three annual balance sheets on audited statement giving sufficient details to assess their financial standing.
3. C.V. of senior staff proposed to be employed on the work.
4. Details of plant and equipment possessed by them.
5. How they intend to do the work in case restrictions are imposed by lending agencies.

No understanding is given that all or any of the applicants will be included in the short-list of tenderers.

LEMBAGA LETRIK NEGARA TANAH MELAYU  
NATIONAL ELECTRICITY BOARD OF THE  
STATES OF MALAYSIA

### TRENGGANU HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

HYDRAULIC, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

TENDERS ARE INVITED FROM MANUFACTURERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Contract No. 1854/11

TURBINE/GENERATOR UNITS, STATION CRANES AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT

This contract comprises design, supply, delivery and erection etc. of the following packages:

**PACKAGE A:**  
Four (4) vertical shaft, Francis reaction water turbines, 102 MW output, 250 r/min, 118 metres net head, complete with electro-hydraulic governors, turbine and pipeline drain systems, cooling water systems for turbines and generators and ancillary equipment.

**PACKAGE B:**  
1. Four (4) synchronous generators, 112 MVA, 13.8 kV, 50 Hz, 250 r/min complete with static excitation systems and ancillary equipment.

2. Four (4) sets of unit control, protection and auxiliary systems for the turbines and generators including control room cubicles, control desk, electrical protection relay cubicles, auxiliary transformer, motor starter cubicles, and sequence control systems.

3. Four (4) sets of main power connections, 13.8 kV, 5,000 A, isolated phase busbar complete with switchgear, voltage transformers, current transformers, surge diverters etc.

4. Two (2) overhead travelling cranes, 12 metres span, with combined capacity to lift the generator rotor, with 20 tonne auxiliary hoists.

Tenders will be accepted for each contract package separately or for both packages as one contract.

Tenderers shall be manufacturers or consortia of manufacturers of the items described and must have had approved previous experience in the design and manufacture of similar equipment.

Full details of manufacturers' experience and their technical and financial competence must be forwarded with their application not later than 1 May 1979 to:

Project Manager,  
Trengganu Hydroelectric Project,  
Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation,  
Box 356, Cooma North, NSW 2630, Australia.

with copy to  
Project Engineer,  
Trengganu Hydroelectric Project,  
National Electricity Board,  
PO Box 1003, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

accompanied by a documentation fee of \$Aust500 (Five hundred Australian Dollars) international bank draft or money order payable to SNOWY MOUNTAINS ENGINEERING CORPORATION.

It is expected that tender documents will be issued to registered tenderers about June 1979 and that tenders will be required to be submitted about four months thereafter.

Tender documents will be issued by Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation. The document fee will be refunded only to applicants not issued with tender documents.

Tenders shall be delivered at the head office of LEMBAGA LETRIK NEGARA TANAH MELAYU, 129 Jalan Bangsar, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The exact date and place for submission of tenders will be specified in the tender documents.

LEMBAGA LETRIK NEGARA is not bound to accept any application or to accept the lowest or any tender.

LEMBAGA DETRIK NEGARA is not liable for cost incurred by tenderers in preparing tenders.

### SUDAN RAILWAYS STORES DEPARTMENT

CONTRACT No. 5167

### SUPPLY OF 1,000 BEARING HOUSINGS

#### "NOTICE"

1. Controller of Stores, Sudan Railways, Atbara invites tenders for supply of 1,000 Bearing Housings.

2. Details, specification and drawing can be obtained from the Office of Controller of Stores, P.O. Box 65, Atbara, Sudan, or from the office of Stores Representative at Khartoum, Tel. 74783, on submitting a written application bearing 50 mm. stamp duty and payment of £s 3,000 murs. for one copy of details, specification and drawing.

3. The closing date fixed for acceptance of tenders is office Controller of Stores, Sudan Railways, Atbara, Sudan is Saturday, 21 April, 1979 at 12.00 hours noon.

4. Details, specification and drawing can also be obtained from Sudan Government Purchasing Agent, 3-5 Cleveland Row, St. James's, SW1A 1DD on payment of £s 50 (sterling) by Cheque or Postal Order in favour of "The Sudan Government, Purchasing Agent".

OFFICE OF CONTROLLER OF STORES

### CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR EVERY MONDAY

Rate: £15 per single column centimetre

Minimum three centimetres

For further information regarding advertising please telephone:

FRANCIS PHILLIPS 01-248 4782

### VICTORIA DAM AND TUNNEL

The Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka invites submission of prequalification forms from experienced British contractors who can qualify through experience with projects of similar nature and type for the construction of either or both of the following works:

(a) 110 m high double curvature arch mass concrete dam;

(b) 6 km of tunnels, shafts and surge chamber, near the Victoria Falls on the Mahaweli Ganga, about 16 km east of Kandy in Sri Lanka.

Preliminary information on the project and instructions for firms wishing to apply for prequalification to tender took:

Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners  
427 London Road  
Earley

Reading RG6 1BL

quoting reference 9d/78035. Such applications should be made immediately since prequalification information received after 12th April 1979 may not be considered.

## UK NEWS—LABOUR

### Vauxhall workers meet today

By Philip Bassett and Arthur Smith

WORKERS AT Vauxhall's Luton plant meet today to decide whether to continue their six-day-long unofficial strike. In Birmingham, shop stewards at BL Cars decided at the weekend not to call a strike from next Friday over a demand for £20 a week for craft workers.

Vauxhall estimates that its strike has cost £2.3m at show-room value in lost production.

Some 2,700 workers have been laid off by the dispute, over the dismissal of a worker alleged to have assaulted a foreman.

It involves 15 workers in the underbody section and 150 body shop workers, mainly members of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The BL decision is seen as another setback for the unofficial toolmakers' organisation, after and BL craftsmen's decision, whose strike two years ago took the company to the brink of financial collapse.

Leaders of the toolmakers and craftsmen, who claim to represent 10,000 workers, had recommended a total strike. The apparent lack of support must cast serious doubt on the credibility of the unofficial toolmakers' organisation.

Senior shop stewards throughout BL Cars, meeting in Birmingham on Friday, are expected to recommend scrapping of the company's experiment in worker participation.

Unrest about the participation machinery has been increasing over the past 12 months.

### AUEW Left in battle to restore influence

BY ALAN PIKE, LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

LEFT-WINGERS in the Amalgamated Union of Engineers Workers are fighting to restore their influence in a series of elections this week.

Four of the seven seats on the engineering section executive are up for ballot and the Left must gain at least one if it is to retain any direct influence in the union leadership.

The AUEW Left has suffered some severe election losses recently, culminating in the victory of Right-winger Mr. Terry Duffy in last year's presidential election.

In the North-West, the sitting executive member, Mr. Gerry Russell, is up for re-election. There is a vacancy in Wales and the West, following the death of Mr. Bill John.

In addition to the executive contests, another ballot involves Mr. Bob Wright, the union's best-known Left-wing official, who is fighting to retain his post of assistant general-secretary. Mr. Wright has in recent years been defeated by Mr. Duffy for both the Midlands executive seat and the presidency.

### Sea catering wages fight is launched

BY RAY PERMAN, SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT

MR. WESTI HANSEN, chairman of Goodyear UK, has agreed to meet union officials to discuss the closure of the company's Glasgow tyre factory.

The Transport and General Workers' Union threatened industrial action at Goodyear's plants at Wolverhampton and Craigavon, Northern Ireland, unless the talks took place.

The meeting will be in London, probably on Thursday. It will be attended by Glasgow Labour MPs.

Mr. Hansen announced the closure of the factory last month, with the loss of nearly 700 jobs, after the workforce rejected a productivity plan.

The company has told the union and the Government that its decision is final.

Mr. Alex Kitson, executive officer of the union, said yesterday that he thought Government intervention would be needed to save the plant.

Local MPs would be lobbying Ministers and the union would ask its sponsor MPs to apply pressure.

The union would probably also call a conference of shop stewards from all British tyre plants to discuss the industry, particularly the closure of the Goodyear factory and of Dunlop's factory at Speke, Merseyside.

Negotiations will start between the two unions who have recruited catering employees under a joint umbrella—the Transport and General Workers' Union and the National Union of Seafarers.

Offshore Catering Services of Aberdeen and Grimsby Yarmouth.

CROWN AGENTS INQUIRY

THE investigation into what

Mrs. Judith Hart, the Overseas Development Minister, describes as the "Crown Agents" involvement "with the shady side of the City" resumes today after a two week break.

Set up by Parliament 15 months ago to find "to what extent there were lapses from accepted standards of commercial or professional conduct or of public administration" by the Crown Agents between 1966 and 1974, the Crown Agents Tribunal is little over half-way through the first of six main areas of inquiry.

This section, titled "Crown Agents", will be followed by investigation of areas such as the Crown Agents' relations with the Ministry of Overseas Development, the Exchequer and Audit Department, Exchange Control regulations, the Bank of England, and its former solicitors, Davies Arnold and Cooper.

Mr. David Johns, head of marketing services and Mr. Ronald Newman, managing director at Crown Agents, will be appearing before the tribunal today.

### Protest planned on European MPs' salaries

By Our Lobby Staff

LABOUR anti-marketeers are likely to make a last gesture of protest against a directly-elected European Parliament when the Government introduces legislation in a few weeks authorising payment of European MPs. They are expected to oppose the provision allowing MPs sitting in both Westminster and Europe to draw two salaries.

Unless a last-minute change is made no allowance is likely for travel within the vast new European constituencies.

Though the MPs to be elected on June 7 will get the generous per diem expenses, and payment for travel to and from the European Parliament, they are unlikely to be able to claim the Westminster allowance of £5 a mile for travelling in the constituency.

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### ARAB MONETARY FUND

#### PREQUALIFICATION INVITATION TO CONTRACTORS

The Arab Monetary Fund intends to start the construction of its new office building on the Corniche Road, Abu Dhabi, in the near future. The building is a 15-floor tower of prestigious office space with its own underground car park and utilising the most modern techniques for electromechanical, security and safety services. The total built area is 15,000 sq.m. and 4,000 sq.m. of landscaping.

Building contractors with previous experience in the construction of similar projects in the Gulf and who can prove their technical and financial soundness are invited to contact the AMF to obtain the prequalification forms which should be completed and sent to the AMF on or before 15th April, 1979.

Please contact:  
THE PROJECT MANAGER  
ARAB MONETARY FUND<br

Financial Times Monday March 12 1979

COMPANY TODAY	
And Lawrence Ltd.	High Street
1st Finchley, N. 12	Rebeschold, 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
Steel Selection and Development, 25-25	Sieme, Birmingham 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
YEAR MEETINGS	Cardiff 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79) 21 spc.
of Joyce Motors	Sieme, 21 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
Perkins, 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)	C. Hampshire 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
in Gwent /	Glandford, Lawrence Ord. And 21 spc.
or Timber	Leeds 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79) 23 spc.
and Pneumatic	Maldon 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79) 21 spc.
Dividends & INTEREST PAYMENTS	Wolverhampton 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79) 21 spc.
Electro Foods 0.8853p	Wigan 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
Hedges 1.15115p	Worcester 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
Motor Br. Rep. Recs. (1-20th share)	Freston 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79) 21 spc.
Hydraulic Tin 3.30	S. Glamorgan Var. 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79) 21 spc.
Can 12.20	Shropshire 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
Conversion and Inv. Tax. 1.34p	London and Stratford Tst. 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
and Profit 1.8619p	Walker (James) Goldsmith and Silversmith 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
TOMORROW	Dividends & INTEREST PAYMENTS
COMPANY MEETINGS	Agri-Industries Mort. Com. Bds. Red. 1981/82
Spars Cap. Tst. 10 spc. Charlton Square	Birmingham 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79) 21 spc.
lrburgh 12.20	Bournemouth 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
Organ. Royal Lancaster Hotel, London	Stockport 12 spc. Bds. Red. 1985 6 spc.
Scientific Hotel Park, W. 12	Weymouth 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
JAN MEETINGS	Yar 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
10-American Ind. Tel.	W. Derbyshire 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
Y.U.	Wolverhampton 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
British Paper	W. Lancashire 9 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
South Construction	W. Yorkshire 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
the Books Lieble	Wales 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)
lie Steels	Wales 10 spc. Bds. Red. (19/3/79)

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange.

## INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act 1929)

A wholly owned subsidiary of Finance for Industry Limited

ISSUE OF

£15,000,000 12½% Unsecured Loan Stock 1992 at £36 per cent payable as to 220 per cent on acceptance, £40 per cent on 26th April, 1979 and the balance of 238 per cent on or before 22nd May, 1979.

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the above stock to be admitted to the Official List. In accordance with the requirements of The Stock Exchange, £1,500,000 of the above stock is available in the market on the date of admission.

The stock will be comprised by a Supplemental Trust Deed to be entered into between the Company, FINANCE FOR INDUSTRY LIMITED and FINANCE CORPORATION FOR INDUSTRY LIMITED as Guarantors and Williams & Glyn's Trust Company Limited as Trustees.

Particulars of the stock are contained on cards circulated by Exta Statistical Services Limited and copies may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 26th March, 1979.

FINANCE FOR INDUSTRY LIMITED

11 Waterloo Road

London SE1 8XP

26 March, 1979

## PLANT & MACHINERY SALES

Description Telephone

### ROLLING MILLS

1 x 12in 10in wide variable speed.

Four High Mill.

5in x 8in 9in-wide variable speed.

Four High Mill.

1in x 16in wide fixed Two High Mill.

n x 16in x 20in wide Four High Mill.

1in x 30in H/P Two High Reversing Mill.

On x 12in wide fixed speed Two High Mill.

1in x 30in wide fixed speed Tow High Mill.

70 CUT-TO-LENGTH max. capacity

1,000 mm 2-mm x 7 tonnes coil fully

overhauled and in excellent condition.

RIP FLATTEN AND CUT-TO-LENGTH LINE

by A.R.M. Max. capacity 750 mm x 3 mm.

RIMER NORTON 18in WIDE CUT-TO-LENGTH LINE. Max. capacity 15in x 10 swg.

WT TW STAND WIRE FLATTENING AND

STRIP ROLLING LINE, 10in x 6in rolls x

75 hp per roll stand. Complete with edging

rolls, tuck's head, flaking and fixed recoller,

air gauging, etc. Variable line speed,

0/750 ft/min and 0/1,500 ft/min.

LITTING LINES (2) 300 mm and 500 mm

capacity.

AR AND TUBE REELING & STRAIGHTENING

MACHINE by Platt. Max. capacity 2in Bar 2.50in tube.

BLOCK (400 mm) IN LINE, NON-SLIP WIRE

DRAWING MACHINE by Marshall Richards.

15 DMS4 WIRE DRAWING MACHINES,

5,000 ft/min with spoolers by Marshall

Richards.

DE 1.750 ft/min SLIP TYPE ROD DRAWING

MACHINE equipped with 3 speed 200 h.p.

drive 20in. Horizontal Draw Block 22in

Vertical Collaring Block and 1,000 lb

Spooler. (Max. in let 5 mm finishing down

to 1.6 mm copper and aluminium).

9 and 17 ROLL FLATTENING AND

LEVELLING MACHINES, 20in, 36in, 59in

and 72in wide.

HYDRAULIC SCREW BALING PRESS

by Fielding and Platt. 85 ton main ram

pressure.

TYPE 1000 CINCINNATI PLATE SHEAR,

max. capacity 1,250 mm x 25 mm M.S. Plate,

complete with full range of spares.

10 F1CYP SHEAR, max. capacity 50 mm

rounds 75 mm x 35mm hair, 400 mm x 10 mm

flats. (spare shear blade).

CINCINNATI GUILLOTINE 2,500 mm x 3 mm

capacity complete with magnetic sheet

supports and motorised back stops.

92 FULLY AUTOMATED COLD SAW

by Noble & Lund with batch control.

CWT MASSEY FORGING HAMMER—

pneumatic single blow.

6" dia. HORIZONTAL BULL BLOCK

by Farmer Notron 75 H/P variable

speed drive.

WO SPEED REVERSING ROLLING MILL,

equipped with 20in dia. x 30in wide rolls.

Twin recollers and 350 h.p. drive.

970 CUT-TO-LENGTH LINE max. capacity

1,000 mm x 2 mm x 7 tonnes coil, fully

overhauled and in excellent condition.

1,000 TON HYDRAULIC PRESS Upstroke...

JPSET FORGING MACHINE 4in dia. 750 tons.

NICKMAN 12" 6SP AUTOMATIC. Reconditioned.

NICKMAN 24in 6SP AUTOMATIC. Reconditioned.

NICKMAN 24in 6SP AUTOMATIC. Reconditioned.

CINCINNATI CENTRELESS GRINDER. Excellent.

JNDNER JIG BORER, very accurate.

1500 TON CLEARING D A PRESS Bed 180" x 96".

100 TON VICKERS CLEARING PRESS

Bed 36in x 40in Air Clutch & Brake as new.

100 TON SCHULER HIGH PRESS 200 spm.

JUMSDEN GRINDER 36" dia. magnetic chuck.

JUMSDEN GRINDER 84" x 24" magnetic clutch.

HEID COPY LATHE 36" dia. x 50". Reconditioned.

FISCHER COPY LATHE TYPE 18/150.

WIEDMAN TURRET PRESS TYPE BRA/41 as new.

BRYANT INTERNAL GRINDER 60" dia. Excellent.

ROTOPINISH BARRELLING UNIT 36 cu.ft. rubber lined.

CAZENEUVE LATHE Model 725 25" dia. x 39". Excellent.

NATIONAL COLD HEADERS 1" & 2" dia. recon.

200 TON DEEP DRAWING PRESS.

DEMOOR HEAVY DUTY LATHE 38" dia. x 10 ft.

CINCINNATI No. 3 HORIZONTAL MILL.

V.D.F. CENTRE LATHE 26" dia. x 14 ft.

BARBER & COLMAN 16-16 HOBBER, as new.

100 TON HYDRAULIC PRESS.

100 TON HYDRAULIC PRESS.</p

# WADHAM STRINGER

## ROLLS-ROYCE



Official Distributors for Rolls-Royce and Bentley.



H.A. FOX

34 Dover Street, London Tel. 01-499 8962  
 1978 Feb. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow II Saloon. Walnut, Champagne leather, very low mileage.  
 1978 Mar. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow II Saloon. Silver Chalice. Black Everflex roof. Surf Blue leather. Speedometer reading 3,500 miles.  
 1978 Aug. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow Saloon. Willow Gold. Black Everflex roof. Black leather. Speedometer reading 20,000 miles. £26,750  
 1978 Feb. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow Saloon. Pewter, Green leather. Speedometer reading 39,500 miles. £23,000  
 1978 Jan. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow Saloon. Walnut, Beige leather. Speedometer reading 41,000 miles. £25,000  
 1978 May Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow Saloon. Black over Walnut. Black leather. Speedometer reading 38,600 miles. £18,950  
 1978 May Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow Saloon. Caribbean Blue, Dark Blue Everflex roof. Magnolia leather. Speedometer reading 56,700 miles. £17,950  
 1978 May Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow Saloon. Walnut Beige Everflex roof. Beige leather. Speedometer reading 59,000 miles.  
 1971 Aug. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow. Caribbean Blue. Black Everflex roof. Dark Blue leather. Speedometer reading 62,000 miles. £14,950  
 1971 Feb. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow. Deep Indigo Blue. Black Everflex roof. Dark Blue leather. Speedometer reading 65,500 miles. £14,950  
 1969 Jun. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow HJM/PW 2-door Saloon. White. Black Everflex roof. Black 2-door Saloon. White. Black Everflex roof. Black leather. Speedometer reading 81,600 miles. £14,750



GUILDFORD

Woodbridge Road, Guildford, Surrey. Tel. 692231. Tel. 692255  
 1978 Oct. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow II finished in Peacock Blue with Beige hide, 5,000 miles.  
 1978 Sand with Brown hide and Brown Everflex roof. Under 2,000 miles indicated.  
 1977 May Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow II in Silver Sand with Brown hide. Supplied and serviced by us. 25,000 miles indicated.  
 1977 Oct. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow LWB Saloon in Oxford Blue with cloth upholstery. 24,000 miles. £28,950  
 1974 June Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow in Shell Grey with Blue hide and Black Everflex roof. 17,500 miles indicated. Immaculate condition. £24,225



TORQUAY

Lisburne Square, Torquay. Tel. (0803) 24321  
 1978 Oct. Rolls-Royce Camargue 2-door Saloon, finished in Paprika with Nuella Tan hide upholstery. This magnificent motor car has been serviced by a leading Rolls-Royce Distributor since it was supplied to its only owner. A full and comprehensive service history is available. While the accrued mileage of 62,000 is more than normal, the superb all-round condition of this motor car demands substantial offers.  
 1978 Aug. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow Series II Saloon, finished in Walnut with Silver Sand side panels and Magnolia hide upholstery faced with Brown leather. 11,000 miles. Price on application.  
 1977 Oct. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow Series II Saloon finished in Champagne with Brown hide upholstery. Speedometer reading 4,000 miles. Competitively priced

1974 Feb. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow Saloon finished in Walnut over Regency Bronze. Speedometer reading 48,000 miles. A beautiful and very well maintained motor car. £19,850  
 1969 Bentley T Series Saloon finished in Shell Grey with Red hide upholstery. One owner from new. Speedometer reading 32,000 miles. Recently reconditioned. Full service history. A truly remarkable and magnificent motor car. £15,450

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EXETER

Frog Street, Inner By Pass, Exeter. Tel. (0392) 75237  
 1978 Apr. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow. Walnut with Light Beige Everflex roof and Light Beige leather interior. Flared wheel arch model. Recorded mileage only 50,000. £21,250  
 1978 May Daimler Double-Six Vanden Plas. Amethyst with Tan interior. One owner. Recorded mileage under 12,000. £15,100  
 1978 Jan. Daimler Sovereign 4.2. Juniper Green with Cinnamon interior. Tinted glass, electric aerial. Recorded mileage only 7,000. £9,950  
 1977 Aug. (S) Daimler 4.2 Coupe. Signal Red with Black interior. Chrome wheels, radio, mudflaps, remote control door mirror. Sold new by us. £8,950  
 1978 (Aug. T) BMW 633 CSIA Coupe. Resedigrun Metallic with Brown velour interior. Electric sunroof, tinted glass, electric door mirrors. £15,750  
 New Daimler Double-Six. White with Black vinyl roof. Chrome wheels, Cinnamon interior, air-conditioning.



NORTHAMPTON

552 Wellington Road, Northampton. Tel. 401141  
 New Jaguar 3.4 XJ Saloon finished in Moroccan Bronze/Sand trim. Fitted with tinted glass and chrome pressed steel wheels. List price  
 New Jaguar 5.3 V12 XJ Saloon finished in Silver/Black trim. Fitted with air-conditioning, chrome pressed steel wheels. List price  
 Alfa Romeo stock of Rover Saloons.



REIGATE

London Road, Reigate. Tel. 45881  
 New Rover 2600 5-speed. PAS. Finished in Platinum.  
 New Rover 3500 5-speed. PAS. Finished in Midas.  
 1978 Jaguar 5.3 Injection Saloon Auto. Finished in Dark Blue with Biscuit leather. Air conditioning. Chrome wheels. Radio/stereo. Indicated mileage under 3,000. £11,950  
 1977 Jaguar 4.2 Coupe Auto. Finished in Carriage Brown with Biscuit leather. Chrome wheels, radio/cassette, balance of 2nd year Supercover. Indicated mileage under 16,000. £8,950  
 1976 Jaguar 5.3 Injection Saloon Auto. Finished in Dark Blue with Biscuit leather. Air conditioning. XJS alloy wheels. Electric sunroof. Indicated mileage under 23,000. £7,995  
 1979 Rover 2600 Auto. Finished in Dark Green Metallic with Brown nylon. Power steering. Tinted glass. Electric windows. Indicated mileage under 1,000. £6,995  
 1976 Daimler 3.4 Sovereign Auto. Finished in Regency Red with Sand cloth. Indicated mileage under 30,000. £5,945  
 1977 Lancia Spyder 1600 Convertible with Hard Top. Finished in White with Brown Parchment. Indicated mileage under 9,000. £4,595  
 1976 Ford Granada 3000 GL Estate Auto. Finished in Dark Blue with Blue cloth. Indicated mileage under 28,000. £4,295

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Lisburne Square, Torquay. Tel. (0803) 24321  
 1977 Range Rover finished in Lincoln Green with usual extras and four headlamp conversion. Superb condition. £8,950

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Carnival Red with Black Hide and Red inserts and Special interior trim.

### 1978 BENTLEY T2 SILVER

Silver Chalice with Dark Blue Hide

### 1978 ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER SHADOW II SALOON

Moondust Green with Beige Hide

### 1977 ROLLS ROYCE SILVER SHADOW II SALOON

Shale Grey with Red Hide

### 1976 ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER SHADOW SALOON

Nutmeg with Beige Hide. 34,000 miles

### 1974 ROLLS-ROYCE LONG WHEELBASE SALOON WITHOUT DIVISION

Savannah Blue with Blue Cloth Interior. 32,000 miles

### 1973 ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER SHADOW

Regency Bronze with Tan Everflex Sun Roof and Tan Hide. 31,500 miles

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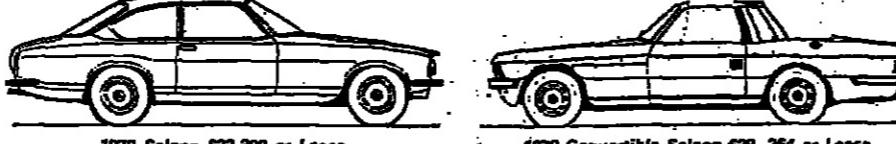
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# Technical Page

EDITED BY ARTHUR BENNETT AND TED SCHOETERS

## • PROCESSING

### Dirty linen updated

NEXT TIME your secretary thinks of drying those tannin-stained tea cups on the roller towel in the cloakroom, ask her to spare a thought for the people who work at Smarts Laundries in Balham, South London.

Although the whole ethos of this new £1m industrial laundry is not to have to touch the beastly things, some of the "girls" have worked there for over 30 years, and still balk at the result of others' labours.

Bloodiest job, undoubtedly, is the sorting out of coats, overalls and aprons from the Co-op butchers, and hospital groups.

From thence, they are entered into a fully automated process most of which takes place by implementation of British machinery and technological investment.

Most sophisticated feature of the 19,000 square foot of production area is the Tunnel continuous washing system with automated overhead feed and storage which handles 25,000 roll-towels per week. It is said to be the only installation of its kind operating in the UK and requires virtually no manual handling from start to finish of the process.

Once towels have been flaked in preparation for washing, they are transported by conveyor to a Classomat unit which uses high pressure air to blast individual towels through a duct and into baskets suspended 9 feet above the laundry's floor.

Each basket accepts ten towels before moving along the Futurail, then discharges the towels into a 2,400 lb an hour capacity Sensing tunnel washer.

The washer has 20 compartments and each batch of ten towels spends 1½ minutes in each compartment before being discharged on to a conveyor prior to loading (in 40 towel batches) into one of two Broadbent auto extractors.

Extraction cycle of the Balham process, says chairman, Brian Goodlife, is believed to be unique — using as it does two 200 pound capacity, 1000 rpm Broadbent washer/extractors specially modified solely to extract water.

Particular feature of this application is that the towels receive an additional rinse before extraction.

A third conveyor carries the

towels from the extractors to the final calendering section, where manual processing resumes. Calendering is catered for by two ten-towel capacity Marlowe Tulips units, each capable of handling over 2,000 towels per day.

Additional roll-towel processing capacity is provided by a 600 lb Milnor washing/extractor, operating separately from the main automated line. This machine not only acts as a back-up unit, but can also be used for special processing when required.

A whiter shade of pale is, apparently, still tops on the towel market, although the Stock Exchange chooses those with snazzy stripes down the middle, and, where towels have lost their whiter-than-white image, they are dyed to a more practical Oxford blue. Worn, damaged, or especially stained patches, are snipped out and replaced with sections of new towelling before laundering.

But, in addition to roll-towelling processing, the laundry offers many other services to industry and commerce, such as wear-plate and bed-linen rental.

Following sorting into futural baskets, items are washed in one of five washer/extrators — two 240 lb capacity units; one of 120 lb and the other of 35 lb. When necessary, garments can be processed in the 150 lb capacity Spencer Aquasolv machine, where they are simultaneously washed and dry cleaned.

In the finishing process, all flatwork (sheets, napkins, tablecloths, etc.) are calendered, while garments go through a tunnel-dyer. Four tumble-driers are used for items that need to be thoroughly dried.

Streamlining the company's stock control, and undertaking all automatic and manual invoicing procedures, is a £100,000 Burroughs B800 computer system which incorporates seven VDUs and can store up to 97m bytes of information on its memory disc. This supplies the laundry's 9,000 customers in the south-east with detailed printouts, including full account information and also covers similar operation for Smarts' branches in Hackney, Southampton and Wilmington.

More on 01-870 1444.

DEBORAH PICKERING

## • ENERGY

### Sun power converter has indefinite life

**IN THEORY**, there appears to be no reason why, once a direct conversion silicon solar cell array is up and working, it should ever stop. Ferranti staff say the life of a solar cell used in non-space applications is "indefinite".

Researchers at Battelle's Columbus Laboratories have begun improving upon a method of making silicon solar cells, which they hope could sharply bring down costs of this form of solar energy capture.

In a one-year, \$300,000 study for the U.S. Department of Energy, Battelle will further develop a method for fabricating amorphous (non-crystalline) silicon using electrodeposition

and adapt the process to solar cell fabrication.

A major problem besetting solar-cell technology has been its high costs. Current solar-cell modules sell for about \$9 per peak-watt of output. Typical methods for manufacturing involve growing large crystals of silicon, slicing them, then fabricating the solar cell and enclosing it in a protective capsule. As part of the current study, Battelle hopes to develop a method that could produce silicon solar cells at costs as low as 30 cents per peak watt by 1988. They also hope to attain at least a 10 per cent efficiency rate from solar cells using the electrodeposited amorphous silicon, which is comparable to current solar cell

efficiency rates ranging from 7 to 14 per cent.

This would imply that the energy section of a dwelling could be built at capital cost at, say, \$6,000 and go on for the life of the home, which explains all the interest.

To produce the silicon, researchers will use electro-deposition—a technique traditionally used for plating one metal over another to produce coatings. During the past three years, Battelle in co-operation with The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, has developed a process for electrodepositing silicon. Holding the patent on the technique is The Solar Company, a Battelle-Northwestern Mutual venture established for the purpose of

## • CONSTRUCTION

### Counter to vibration

**HEAVY DUTY** resin anchors from Hilti (Great Britain) have helped solve a problem in one of Courtaulds' weaving mills.

Courtaulds recently installed a number of looms in this north of England plant. It was found that expansion bolts used to fasten the looms to the floor were rapidly working loose due to vibration.

This process of making silicon could be scaled up for large production runs and operated continuously, and because the process can be operated at room temperature, little energy will be required for production.

Battelle Columbus Laboratories, 505 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, 43201, U.S.

## Commercial building

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restrictions.

Construction work on the hotel commenced in January 1978 and is scheduled for completion in July 1979.

GKN Mills Tableform is versatile and its telescopic leg arrangement allows a complete unit to be withdrawn through an opening as small as 760 mm (2 ft 6 in) deep without complete dismantling. In contrast to other systems it can be used to construct excessive upstands/downstands or balconies/cast with the floor slab, straight and spiral ramps, sloping soffits and hyperbolic paraboloid roofs.

The method, which is basically the construction of the floor slab on a supporting movable plane, is very good on productivity but places some constraint on design. Something like seven repeat uses are required to make the method worth while.

## Concrete to spray

DEVELOPED BY Pozzament Cement, in association with Fairclough Tarmac, is a factory-blended concrete for the mining and civil engineering industries, BucShot.

Precise production control has enabled a variety of BucShot mixes to be produced for varying requirements, using the basic ingredients of Portland cements, graded sand bases, and approved admixtures for high early strength, rapid set, improved adhesion and bond, and reduced dust emission.

Because of its built-in humectant reaction, the spray concrete is said to be safe for use in confined spaces. It is suggested for tunnel support systems, repairs and relining, rock sealing and support, long-wall packs and strata control in mining, air and fire control in tourist villages in Monrovia, Liberia.

The hotel, being constructed for the Republic of Liberia's Ministry of Public Works by Cubits Liberia Inc. (a member of the Tarmac Group) is on six floors with a total floor area of nearly 27,000 square metres.

GKN Mills Tableform will be used on all floors except the first, which is unsuitable for tableforming because of height

5010.

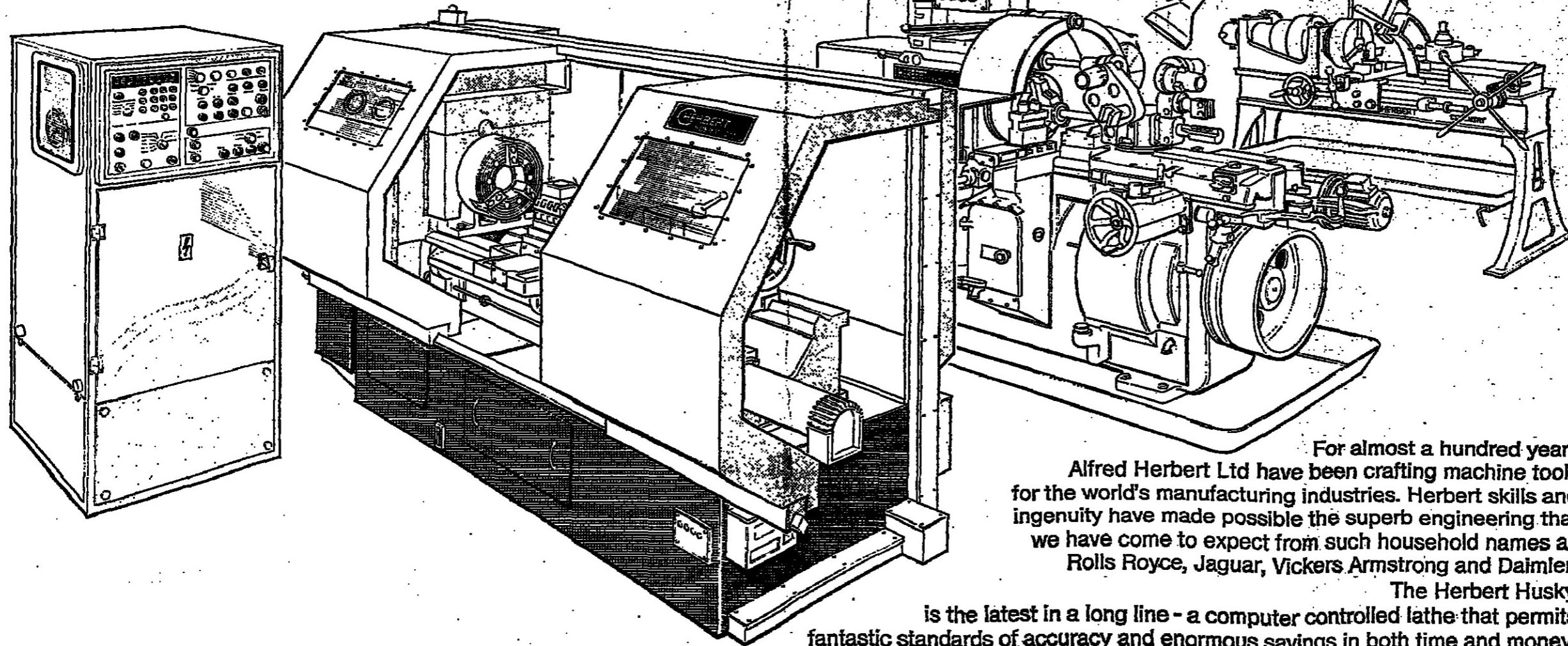
## Lays floors very fast

TABLEFORM from GKN Mills Building Services is being used to construct the floors of a 520m hotel in the OAU (Organisation for African Unity) Conference Centre and tourist village in Monrovia, Liberia.

Installation of the windmill together with associated control equipment was completed by a WESCO installation team in less than eight working hours. A helicopter was used to position the tower-mounted unit into its concrete foundation. Once installed, the electricity cables were laid by a Swiss electrical engineering team.

# The Herbert Husky

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For almost a hundred years Alfred Herbert Ltd have been crafting machine tools for the world's manufacturing industries. Herbert skills and ingenuity have made possible the superb engineering that we have come to expect from such household names as Rolls Royce, Jaguar, Vickers Armstrong and Daimler.

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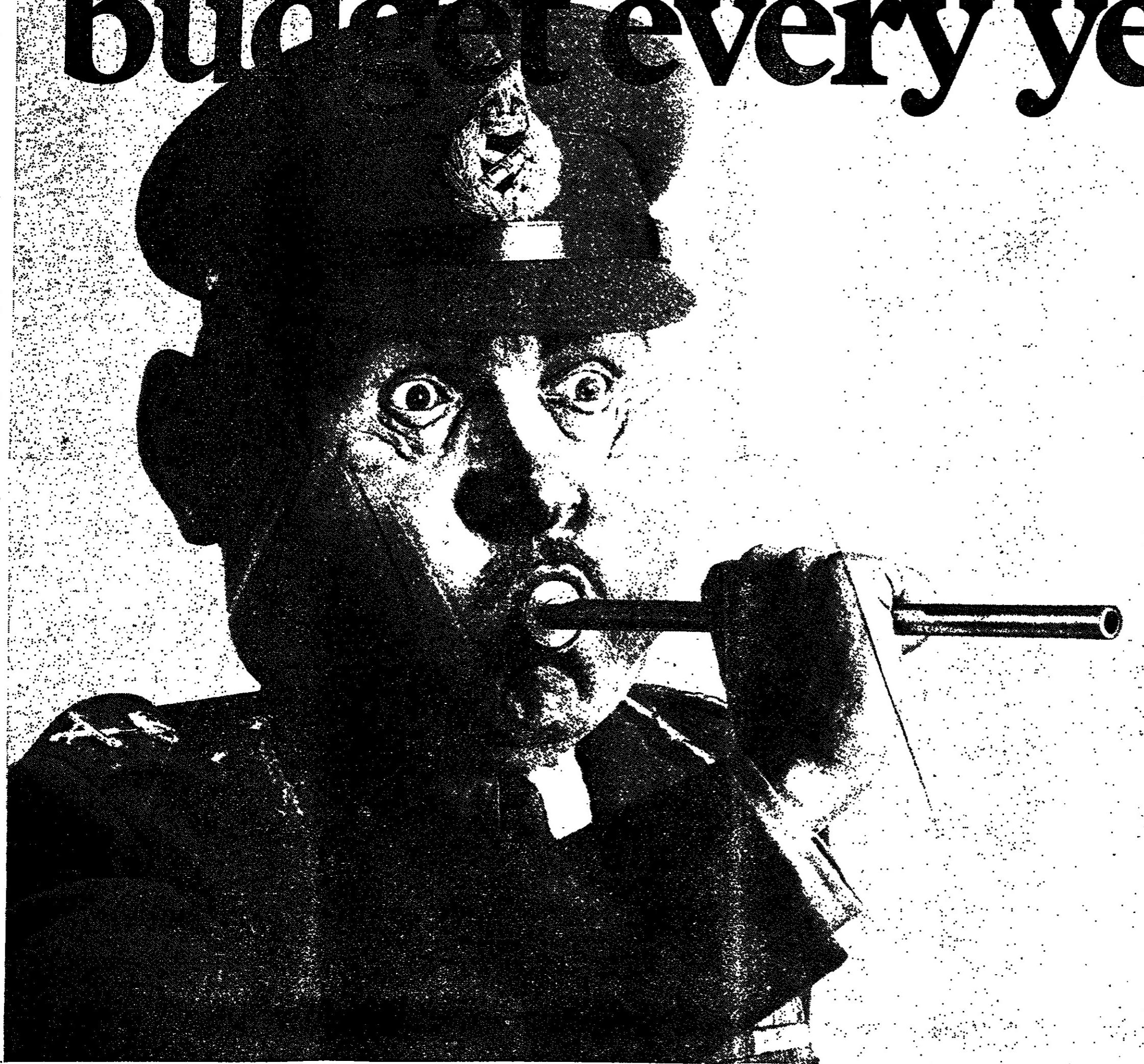


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# Can we afford to throw away a third of our defence budget every year?



The British defence budget was £6,000 million last year. Another £2,000 million would double the size of the Army, or treble the number of nuclear submarines.

Or, if you think the defence budget is big enough already, it would buy 150 new hospitals.

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But it will certainly strengthen the economy.

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We'll help you make money out of thin air.

# Building and Civil Engineering

## £100m. hydro scheme for Sri Lanka

UNDER A contract signed in Colombo between the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Sir William Halcrow and Partners, the latter is to provide full consultancy services for detailed design and supervision of construction of a 200MW hydro-electric project, part of the Mahaweli Development Scheme, at Kotte, some 25km from Sri Lanka's hill capital of Kandy. Halcrow will be working in collaboration with CECB (Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau), the Sri Lanka state consultants; Kennedy and Donkin will be the sub-consultants for the electrical and mechanical aspects of the scheme.

The project is being funded by the Swedish Government, and the Swedish contractor SKANSKA has been nominated for the civil engineering works.

The overall cost of the project is expected to be about £100m.

Construction of the main works is due to commence this year,

and to be completed in 1984.

The water supply for the Kotte male project will be provided by a reservoir to be created by construction of a rockfill dam 107m high with a crest length of some 550m. The reservoir will have a gross storage capacity of 410m cubic metres, and a surface area of 956 hectares. The power house, which will accommodate four Francis turbines

of 50MW each, will be located underground and served by a 6.8km long headrace tunnel. Spent water will be discharged through an 850m long tailrace tunnel into the Mahaweli Ganga at its confluence with the Attabage Oya.

The reservoir is located in an area of great scenic beauty, so far largely given over to the cultivation of tea and upland rice.

The creation of so large an artificial lake is likely to prove a substantial tourist attraction,

and for this reason, and also for

obvious functional purposes, a number of roads will have to be rerouted above reservoir top water level.

In order to house the engineers and construction workers likely to be engaged on this project, the total workforce at its peak being expected to exceed 1,000 men, a large camp is being built near the site; the camp is to be provided with all modern services, including electricity to be generated by a small power station, swimming pools and so forth.

While many of the houses will be temporary buildings, a number of permanent bungalows will be provided which, following completion of the project, are to be allocated to technical and maintenance staff required for the operation of the scheme.

## Work rolls in at Reed and Mallik

REED AND MALLIK, the civil engineering division of Rush and Tompkins group, has won contracts worth over £4m, at sites stretching from the London area to Aberdeen.

The largest project, valued at £1.5m, is for Watford Borough Council, and is for the construction of a 1.5km stretch of three-lane, 11-metre wide, ring road together with 150 metres of dual carriageway. Multiple phasing of the work will be necessary, as an existing railway bridge is to be demolished and rebuilt, two new subways constructed and an existing subway extended.

Also in the south-east road work valued at £550,000 is to be undertaken for Kent County Council at the Walderslade Estate.

FOLLOWING THE award in April 1978 for the construction of the new jetty and associated structures at Stranraer for the two-deck roll-on/roll-off ferries, British Rail, Scottish Region, has placed further orders valued at £375,000 with Reed and Mallik for heavy duty lorry parking. The work is to be completed in 26 weeks. Also for the Scottish Region of British Rail at Dunbar, East Lothian, five small over-bridges are being reconstructed to give additional headroom. The work is valued at £280,000 and is also to be completed within 26 weeks.

Thames Water, Metropolitan Division has placed an order valued at £400,000 for the construction of the Earl pumping station in South London. Other sewage works include three jobs in Scotland: 1,260 metres of 300mm ductile iron pipeline for the Strathclyde Regional Council, 674 metres of storm water relief sewer for Grampian AG and P. H. Lehman KG.

Ground Engineering, together with AG für Betonbrenntechnik of Küsnacht, Switzerland, and Börniger of Haan in West Germany, have been contracted by the consortium to cut out more than 52,000 cubic yards of reinforced concrete. The shopping concourse and the street above will remain fully operational while the work is in progress.

The work is being carried out in two parts. The first task of Ground Engineering is to cut holes through both existing decks so that large diameter piles can be installed to support the new underground structures.

The old structure will then be demolished and the road above it re-surfaced.

MODERNISATION OF Düsseldorf's underground railway station below Heinrich-Heine-Allee—a £43.5m project—has resulted in work for a British company, Ground Engineering of Borehamwood, Herts.

The main contract is being carried out by a consortium of 12 contractors including Hochtief AG, P. H. Holzmann AG and P. H. Lehman KG.

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THE THIRD AWARD IS BY THE SOUTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY. Valued at £951,976, this contract is for the Lopwell pumping station, Plymouth.

A gated barrier is to be built

across the creek with a navigation opening 38.6 metres wide flanked by two reinforced concrete towers and three reinforced concrete framed tidal openings, each 12 metres wide.

This contract also calls for a generator house on the west abutment and a transformer house on the east abutment.

flood defence work on both banks including a gate structure across the existing sewage works outfall channel on the west bank, an access road, security fencing and lighting.

The company's second contract is in Northern Ireland and

is for the construction of 2 km of two-lane dual carriageway which will be the first section of the west link between M1 and M2 which runs from Donegall Road to Grosvenor Road in Belfast.

Costing over £2.5m, this work will include drainage, 700 metres of reinforced concrete culvert, a 17 metres span low bridge on bored piles and a steel footbridge.

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## THE MANAGEMENT PAGE

EDITED BY CHRISTOPHER LORENZ

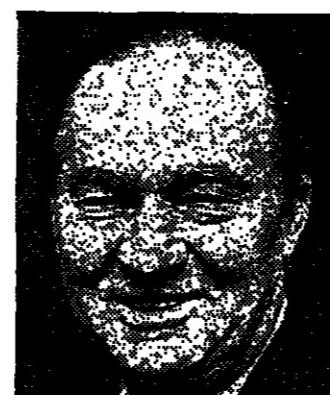
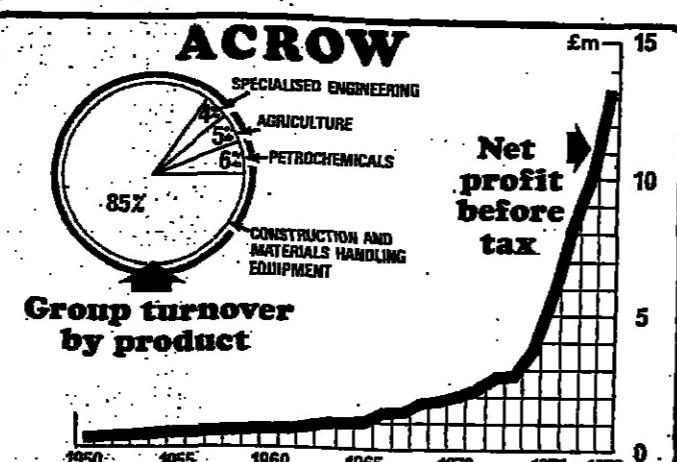
Geoffrey Owen looks at Acrow's new management structure following Bill de Vigier's recent comeback as chief executive

## A thorny succession question

ONE OF the most important tasks for the chairman of a company is to monitor the performance of the chief executive, to identify potential successors and to ensure that his succession takes place smoothly and at the appropriate time. When the chairman himself is the chief executive, the founder of the business and the dominant personality within it, the question of the succession can become extremely delicate.

There have been some well-known cases where the founder has hung on too long, reluctantly giving up power and unsure about the capacity of any of his subordinates to succeed him. Bill de Vigier, the 87-year-old chairman of Acrow, does not intend to fall into this trap. A Swiss by birth, de Vigier founded the company in 1936 to take what became known as the Acrow prop and he has run the business in a very personal style ever since. He has made a number of acquisitions—the largest was the £24m takeover of the Steel Group, incorporating Coles Cranes and Priestman, in 1973—and he has been closely involved in the modernisation and re-equipment of the acquired companies, usually involving heavy capital investment. But he has never been one-man band in the sense of trying to exert day-to-day control over the operating companies.

Like Sir Arnold Weinstock at



Bill de Vigier a new managing director in due course.

World Convention which he held last year at Kempton Park racecourse, bringing over 1,000 overseas visitors to a display of the company's products.

De Vigier's intention to withdraw gradually from full-time executive duties was made plain three years ago when he appointed Bill Jack, then running Coles Cranes, to be group managing director. But Jack resigned from the company last month and de Vigier has resumed, at least temporarily, the role of chief executive. The present plan, on which de Vigier has been supported by his non-executive directors, is to strengthen the head office with a team of four deputy managing directors who will in

effect share with de Vigier the task of supervising the operating companies.

One of these, Ian Green, is responsible for marketing. Green, formerly with Rockwell, has worked for Acrow for three years. The second, Ian Ronaldson, is responsible for Acrow's overseas companies. Ronaldson was previously in charge of the South African subsidiary. A third, Gerry Hill, is moving from Leyland Vehicles on April 1 to take charge of the technical function. While the operating companies all have their own engineering and design departments, one of Hill's tasks will be to oversee continuously their technical developments and to ensure

that their technology is kept up to date.

The fourth and perhaps most important appointment will be that of deputy managing director, finance, to take over from Ron Gourdie, who will be retiring shortly. In view of the group's present size and complexity—further acquisitions are not ruled out—there will be a need for more systematic disciplines and financial controls. This will be particularly necessary as the de Vigier-Gourdie team, whose feel for all aspects of the business is based on many years of working together, begins to fade from the scene. Acrow is now advertising for a successor to Gourdie.

Although these four men are called deputy managing directors, their role is not unlike that of functional directors in a conventional staff and line organisation.

A new group managing director will be appointed in due course, but de Vigier is in no hurry to do this. He himself remains fit and energetic and the first priority is to get the head office structure in place and working smoothly. The intention is that whoever the new chief executive turns out to be—whether he comes from the head office, from the operating companies or from outside—he will fit into a logical management structure which does not depend on the talents of a single individual.

Happily, only first-aid was required, but we abandoned our visit, leaving the hysterical woman and her bruised husband to count their blessings and the cost of severe damage to a floor that an ancient woodwright had not prepared for such insulting treatment.

A few days later, a reader happened to ask me whether I would write about "keep-fit" machines. Although I admit my answer was somewhat coloured by the fat man's rowing accident, I gave the matter much thought.

The request was understandable because, during the current "keep-fit" craze, many engines have been advertised as a means for rendering the fleshy into perfectly-sized people.

Most of those machines are, I am certain, of great value providing that the static cyclist, or what have you, carries out his journeys to nowhere regularly. In my experience, however, a great majority of these devices lose their charm after a week or two and are then relegated to the attic.

Unless an individual is obsessional or has some real affliction necessitating daily exercises, any method intended to offset luncheons that are too big, and drinks that are too frequent, soon becomes irregular, prior to its complete abandonment.

A typical example was provided by a young and would-be-with-it executive of my acquaintance who assures me that he carries out some drill exercises daily. I believe that he actually did so for an entire week, but his wife dismally told me that her husband usually finds himself too tired when he gets home from the office. He still has fits of conscience and carries out parts of the gruelling programme but has to rest between, and have a whisky and a cigarette. Frankly I believe that his health would benefit more if he abandoned all three pursuits.

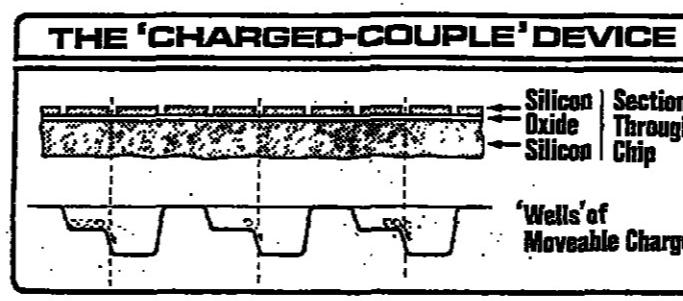
Of course I am all for regular exercise, and I would like to recommend something which may well help many. The price is variable, but frequently one of the cheaper models is better value, if less attractive. No special fixtures or fittings are required, but there is a weekly fuel charge which also varies depending upon the size chosen.

Regular maintenance is required to ensure a life of from six to fifteen years. There are disadvantages, but the merits outweigh them. These include: enforced daily walks (the best of all forms of exercise); built-in personal protective device; occasional enjoyment; and the regular glow of a remarkable sense of self-righteousness and achievement.

The device is easily obtained and guaranteed to succeed. It is known as a dog.

## How Marconi is playing innovator to an American invention

BY DAVID FISHLOCK



The CCD chip is prepared in the form of a matrix of photo-sensitive cells. The charge packets which accumulate beneath the matrix can be shifted from cell to cell by an electronic clock. Thus the pattern can be read out at the bottom edge of the matrix as a video signal suitable for driving a TV display.

groups of specialists who "look very keenly at what the customer wants." They don't invent in a vacuum—they seek out prospective customers and ask them what their problem is. Of a total workforce of 600 in his electro-optics division, about 350 are professional engineers.

Fairchild has developed two CCD cameras which are of keen interest to Davies. One, the general-purpose model, is about the size and shape of a packet of tea, and weighs less than 1 lb. It costs around £3,500—up to ten times the price of a conventional television camera. Half the cost rests in the chip, an array of over 48,000 photo-sensitive cells on a single slice of silicon. This is the "eye" which transforms light signals into electrical pulses with which

size is an obvious advantage, but no less is its "twilight sight" since the sensitivity of its eye extends just into the infrared. Under water the convenience and safety (low voltage) and good spectral response are all big advantages in video recording. The military is another customer, using it, for example, as a video recorder in the confines of aircraft cockpits, to make a record of thousands of cameras.

The military is also the most obvious customer, initially at least, for a still more advanced CCD camera from Fairchild. Only the size of a pocket lighter, it uses a chip with nearly 200,000 photo-sensitive cells. Built into this miracle of microminiature engineering is a thermo-electric cooler and an automatic (motor-driven) iris.

Marconi Avionics is cagey about quoting costs but, given current production levels and low yields in making an exceptionally large chip, unit price at present is of the order of \$10,000. But it is small enough to televise continuously the "head-up" display projected on the pilot's windscreen without

obscuring the pilot's vision, yet robust enough to stand up to the sun's glare.

The U.S. Air Force is in the final stages of a competition between Fairchild and another maker of a microminiature CCD camera for a high-resolution video system it wants to build into at least four of its warplanes. Success could mean production orders for literally thousands of cameras.

The agreement with Fairchild permits Marconi to take what it sees as the crucial module of this camera—namely the eye itself and its 8-watt cooler—and engineer it into its own military systems, such as its "head-up" displays. In quantity production, it believes the camera could work out at less than 10 per cent of the cost of such a system, a price comparable with that for the bigger general-purpose CCD camera. This in turn could open up paramilitary and civilian markets for the more discreet kinds of surveillance.

\* Industrial Innovation. Report of the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development, HMSO, £1.

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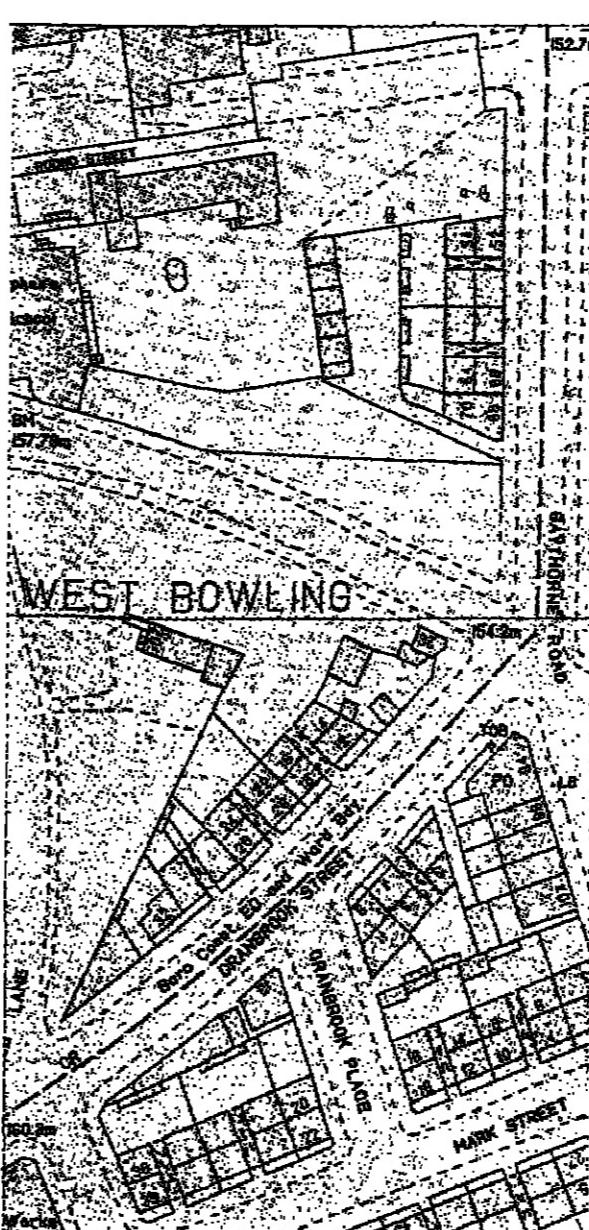
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LOMBARD

# No leaks from UK Treasury

BY SAMUEL BRITTON

MY COLLEAGUE "Observer" reported in the Men and Matters column of March 8 on the peculiar recent behaviour of the British Treasury. The absurd convention that the Chancellor and his advisers should go into purdah for a good many weeks before the Budget, which looked as if it had been buried, has been resurrected. Not only is Mr. Healey personally unavailable for discussion, but all Treasury officials have been told to retire into their shells. Luncheons and appointments have been cancelled all over the place. Security personnel stopped British journalists from attending an eve of meeting IMF cocktail party in Washington. Independent economic forecasters, who normally exchange technical views at this time of year with their Treasury opposite numbers, found the latter even more frosty and unforthcoming than usual.

The Treasury explanation is that the officials are simply "following the Chancellor's lead." Whether Mr. Healey actually told them to do so is another matter. Indeed, it is far from clear whether Mr. Healey, or his permanent secretary, Sir Douglas Wass, initiated the Trappist instructions. Maybe they just evolved from a conversation in the closet room.

## Explanations

Three explanations have been suggested. First, there is the famous letter from Sir Douglas Wass, leaked to the *Guardian*, which contained an excellent analysis of phoney job-creation schemes. Second, there is sensitivity about the last pre-election Budget. Third, there are some pretty sharp disagreements within the Treasury about Budget strategy.

The disclosure of the Wass letter is the most emotionally charged of the three reasons. The extraordinary thing is that the Treasury is the last department that would ever leak anything politically sensitive. The classic doctrine about the occasional need to leak in the interests of good government is to be found in Mr. Callaghan's own evidence to the Franks committee. But this former view of the Prime Minister has never been shared by the Treasury. Indeed, that body would rather lose a battle than be suspected of a leak. It is a working rule among journalists that if they really want to track down what the UK Treasury is doing, they must either ask another department or a foreign government; and this is so at all levels, political and official.

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+ Indicates programme in black and white.

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6.40-7.55 am Open University (Ultra high frequency only). 9.15 For Schools, Colleges, 10.23 Exploring Science, 10.45 You and Me, 11.00 For Schools, Colleges, 12.45 pm News, 1.00 Pebble Mill, 1.45 Barnaby, 2.01 For Schools, Colleges, 3.15 Songs of Praise, 3.33 Regional News for England (except London), 3.35 Play School, 4.20 It's the Wolf, 4.25 Jackanory, 4.40 Baggy Pants and the Nitwits, 5.00 John Craven's

Yet ironically, the Treasury has often been in the forefront of leak accusations. For instance, almost every non-Treasury Minister was sure that the Treasury had given the Financial Times its famous scoop in the autumn of 1976, revealing an £11m borrowing requirement during the sensitive IMF negotiation. In fact, that department's only involvement in the episode was to investigate, unsuccessfully, how the figures escaped.

In the most recent episode, I am as sure as I am of anything that the Wass letter was not leaked by the Treasury. The true criticism to be made is an opposite one: that the Treasury observes, the stiffer rules of the British system with a fanaticism long since dropped everywhere else. Its analysis of the job-creation schemes did, contrary to what has been alleged, very much take into account wider social considerations.

## Confessional

But instead of being proud of its analysis, the Treasury is mainly concerned to prove its loyalty to the Government of the day. It is, alas, more than fourteen years since the first edition of my book on the Treasury. During the interval the personalities, issues and outside criticisms have all changed. What has remained constant is an obsessive insistence on two constitutional fictions. One is that there is no such thing as a departmental view apart from that uttered by the Minister. The second is that advice given by officials to their political heads are on a par with the secrets of the confessional; and it is a sin even to seek to discuss it.

On economic policy I have often felt that, although Treasury advice may be bad, most of its critics would do still worse, if given their head. Indeed, to ascribe the hundred-year-old decline in the British economy to a few dozen Treasury officials being too inflationary or too deflationary, or too much or too little concerned with candle-ends, is ludicrous beyond belief. Indeed the Treasury, for all its weaknesses and mottistic virtue, is the only group in the Whitehall jungle that represents the taxpayer and the consumer against the narrow-minded producer interest groups.

If the British ship of state finally ploughs beneath the waves, the last signal to be emitted by the Treasury helmsman will proclaim: "The sinking did not come from us." True, but just a bit pathetic.

Fellow and there are none in my view, with the exception of Sea Pigeon, who would have gone down by only three-quarters of a length on those Haydock terms, on good ground and the Embassy Handicap Hurdle.

Yet Sea Pigeon, for all his brilliance, has yet to land the

## RACING

BY DOMINIC WIGAN

**AYR**

- 2.15 Park Row \*\*
- 2.45 Cool Thrust
- 3.15 Murphy's Gift
- 3.45 Siomhnaigh Bealtaine VI
- 4.15 The Engineer
- 4.45 Calingao\*
- 5.15 Bannow Breeze\*\*

hurdling crown, and it could be that Cheltenham is simply not his course. This may be so, but I intend to support him now that he is "on the drift" and shall be relying on Major Thompson for a saver.

The cargo ship was impounded by port authorities at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, after a High Court writ was issued against the owner of the 500-ton motor vessel Anglia for debts in the UK.

The cargo of cereal pellets bound for Wells, Norfolk, has been discharged and delivered by road and the crew have returned home.

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## THE ARTS

Dominion, Tottenham Court Road

## Rosalinda by CLEMENT CRISP

The last time we were at the Dominion to see ballet was in 1958 for the stupidities of *Le Rendezvous Manqué*. Now the theatre has yet again been reclaimed, albeit temporarily, for Apollo, and it will do well enough as the extra ballerina London so desperately needs. It would be pleasing to report that London Festival Ballet's opening programme enhanced this new tenancy, but the piece on offer looks to me like *Die Fledermaus Manqué*, a version by Ronald Hynd of Johann Strauss's masterpiece under the title of *Rosalinda*.

Operettas seem to thrive on lunatic complexities of plot because the spoken or sung text is reasonably comprehensible. But even edited as adeptly as Hynd has done in this instance, suppressing characters and subplot to make something coherent of the action, *Rosalinda* is a long haul. Its first act is little more than an acreage of bemusing, and arid parlando recitative in dance, with ten cups, a feather duster, the passage of about ten hours, and a bell ringing seven times to bring on characters who appear and disappear like so many cuckoos in search of a clock to shelter them. As personalities they are remote and ineffectual.

The second act ball is the most successful section. Here

as the don attacking Chesterton. Their ceaseless bustle is necessary to lay down the plot lines which will justify the ball which is Act 2, and the jail scene and final reprise which make up Act 3. But the result is an atmosphere of frenetic activity that rarely relaxes into expressive dance: nervous momentum, unreeling sprightliness, work in direct opposition to choreography.

It is as if Ronald Hynd did not trust his ability to make agreeable, fluent dances, and we know from such pieces as *Dvorak Variations* that he has the craft to do just that. The only moment of extended emotion, when movement expands and blossoms, is the final duel of reconciliation between Rosalinda and Eisenstein. This may be a deliberate decision on Hynd's part, but it makes for a febrile vivacity during the rest of the ballet as the dance sprints from one incident to the next. His accomplice in this is John Lanchbery, who has fragmented and re-cast Strauss into a sometimes breathless gabble of musical ideas whose coarse animation is fuel to an already galvanic dance mania.

Festival's artists run at top speed and in top form to keep the action on the boil. Patricia Ruane is an elegant Rosalinda; Jonas Kage is handsome as Eisenstein; Nicholas Johnson brings a boulevardier elan to Falke, and Kenn Wells surrounds some very low comedy to make the jailer a figure of wild humour. My sympathies are with David Long, got up like a sofa impersonating Salvador Dali, as Alfredo—a violinist in this version; the rest of the company waltz and waltz and waltz again. At one moment in the evening a more than life-size figure of Johann Strauss rocked dangerously on its pedestal. The composer as critic?



Leonard Burc

## Godot arrives at Louvain

The formal unveiling by an envoy of the Belgian Cultural Ministry of his country's most modern theatre on the campus of the Catholic University of Louvain, for the use of both the Theatre Department and the students and actors of the Theatre Workshop, run by Professor Armand Delcampe, is a feather in the cap of this go-ahead young French-speaking Belgian. Delcampe, who retires this year from a six-year stint as secretary of the International Theatre Critics' Association, to devote himself to academic pursuits and production, was originally put in charge of the archives of the late Jean Vilar, one-time head of the Paris-based Théâtre National Populaire and founder of the Avignon festival.

For some years Delcampe has been sorting out the writings of this remarkable French actor-director-manager. His first book, a collection of some of his writings over the years, reveals Vilar as a critic of immense perception, despite his relatively limited knowledge of international drama. It was, in any case, most apt to name

the new theatre after him and to choose for the occasion the Avignon Festival production, co-produced by Delcampe's Atelier Théâtral, of *Waiting for Godot*, which the exiled Czech director Otmar Krejca has now rehearsed to fit the new, much smaller acting-area and the partially altered cast.

The new Jean Vilar Theatre has a fixed balcony but a flexible parterre seating up to 500 spectators. For this revival Krejca, who also designed the setting, chose to place the action in semi-arena form of a sloping snow-white round disc, with a desolate rocklike projection for sitting on at one side and a threethread tree, which sprouts a handful of small bright-green leaves in two parts, on the other. By contrast with the sweeping large-scale motions of the actors of the original production on the vast open-air set in the Papal Palace, and their reliance as much on bodily expression as on facial and vocal nuances, the Louvain rendering was small-scale and intimate to a fault. The clowns, not tramps, incidentally, seemed to be speaking to each one

of us individually, in true British music-hall fashion.

The director's unique sensitivity for the musicality of the text and the players' extrovert acting style coupled with an unwonted fidelity to the author's stage directions brought out far more closely than I have ever experienced it outside of England, the special blend of jocularity and philosophical reflection of gaiety and sadness, that single out this play from all others. The religious echoes in dialogue and stage-business, the proposition that life on earth is a period of enforced waiting and nothing more, and the doctrine that "plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose", were never so hilariously or movingly conveyed.

Carry-overs from Avignon

were Georges Wilson (Gogo) and Michel Bouquet (Pozzo), both in top form; newcomers the sad-faced vaudevillian Rufus (Didi) and the young Belgian actor Andre Burton (Lucky), whose delivery of Lucky's nonsensical monologue was the theatrical tour-de-force of the performance. OSSIA TRILLING

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RUGBY BY PETER ROBBINS

## The amateur spirit is under threat

WHEN I first began to write this column in 1965 I was obliged, under the RFU laws, to surrender my amateur status as a rugby player.

I was debarred from holding office in my club, from coaching and playing. Then I felt the legislation was a gross infringement on my liberty although I received a sympathetic letter from HQ.

More curious was that I could still speak at dinners and because I was then a schoolmaster could carry on coaching my pupils. I never regarded myself as a professional rugby player because I had never received any money for playing. That seemed to be the sole criterion for professionalism but I accepted the strictures

placed on me with a completely clear conscience.

How attitudes have changed since I played. Then we were glad to get our travelling expenses and have the odd meal paid for by the authorities. We did not actively seek to gain financially from the game but success brought its perks, such as a £5-shilling allowance for boots and the provision of all the kit. It still cost money to play, though not a great deal. I admit, and certainly not as much for the first-class player that I felt him to be innocent of any charge of professionalism in the spirit of the law.

Today one of the more serious problems of the game is the threat to the amateur spirit. The laws on professionalism need simplifying. The law states: "No person shall solicit or receive, either directly or indirectly, any monetary consideration or any benefit or material reward (including the promise of any future payment, benefit or material reward)."

This includes the playing, refereeing, coaching, organizing and administering the game and further debars anyone from taking part in athletic competitions to which, but for his rugby knowledge or prowess he would not have been invited. Does a charity game then become a special event?

Given the present climate it is difficult to see how the

against the individuals who flagrantly abuse the amateur spirit. What it can do, as it did in the late '50s is to insist that any special game has to have union approval with the proviso that the accounts may be called for random checking.

The establishment also needs to clarify its ruling on the writing of books for although the Welsh Rugby Union's legal advisers decided that J. P. R. Williams had not infringed his amateur status, it was purely a technicality. Let me say that I felt him to be innocent of any charge of professionalism in the spirit of the law.

It is patently absurd that a player cannot plan to write a book while he is still playing. Equally absurd is the case of Barry Bowker a history teacher in Birmingham. He has written the definitive book on English Rugby and in so doing has surrendered his amateur status. That book was a piece of history involving painstaking research but yet a PE master can write a book on rugby with impunity because physical education is his full-time occupation.

The law on advertising also needs to be revised. It says no person shall directly or indirectly permit his name to be used in advertising. Yet look at the number of clubs and individual players who receive strips and boots in the name of his

team. The law is not only players who benefit indirectly from their position of eminence for the way of the world is such that those in authority cannot help from benefiting indirectly from their connections. There is absolutely nothing wrong or immoral about that provided that this process is acknowledged as existing.

What we cannot have is the existence of double standards and although the International Board met very shortly they cannot, under their own statutes have the question of amateurism on their agenda.

Doubtless the delegates will air their views privately and it may be that they will call an extraordinary meeting to debate this vexed topic thoroughly.

If the game is to survive the onslaught of commercialism the unions must insist on clear guidance. I once believed it impossible for a Kerry Packer-type circus to threaten rugby because of the traditions of the game. Now one cannot be quite so certain.

If it comes to pass much of the fun would go out of the

game.

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ARTA ATOL DESAC

part of a three-man front line. The entire side attacked with skill and imagination. Jones worried the redoubtable McQueen in the air; Villa, although losing the ball rather too much, caused confusion with his constant solo raids; Hoddle provided midfield elegance; and Perriman combined his terrier-like qualities with a varied and high-class distribution service.

Although when on the offensive Spurs impressed during the first 45 minutes, there were occasional moments, usually engineered by McIlroy, that suggested that their rearguard had limitations. After the interval the Londoners came under pressure and the visitors seized the initiative and earned a replay.

With a little more coolness in front of the home goal and a little less agility between the posts by the keeper, Kendall, United would have already joined Liverpool in the semi-final.

Against a defence in which Holmes frequently had to cover for his central partner, Lacy, Manchester United should win the replay at Old Trafford, but with all the players knowing that that game represents their last hope of honours, glamour and more cash for the season, it is bound to be a hard-fought battle.

It is also to be hoped that

names appeared on the front of the programme. The electrical company concerned was provided so much rich entertainment.

The incentive of a semi-final place is important to both clubs if they are to keep their fans happy and contented. United home games have started to slump, while attendances at White Hart Lane will probably drop below 30,000 if they are eliminated.

The fact that Spurs can still command support on that scale for no more than an average First Division team helps to explain a rather contented apathy that has long existed, but one senses that the team's directors are appreciating the need for changes and improvements.

That is to be seen in the appointment of a commercial manager, Mike Lewis, and the realization, at least 10 years overdue, that revenue from gates and season tickets should not represent the only large source of income available to a successful football club.

In addition to the inevitable lottery, whose popularity is liable to wane within five years, and other fund-raising activities, Spurs have introduced a profitable match sponsorship that brings in more than £2,500 a

second thoughts. On

second thoughts, the

managers were

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## THE ARTS

## Festival Hall

## Four Fridays

In a determined attempt to inject new blood into the Festival Hall programme, the London Orchestral Concerts Board is presenting during March four Friday concerts, one with each of the four main independent orchestras. Each programme includes one major work not yet heard in this country (the last one, Tavener's *Immurement of Antigone*, is brand new), paired by Sir William Glock, architect of the scheme, with one or more less unfamiliar works. They are, in fact, the kind of programmes that normally only the BBC will risk. The idea is excellent; it is sad that such action should be necessary.

Unfortunately, since most of Corwin's poem is set in a way in which the individual words do not and are not meant to stand a chance, musical substance matters even more than usual. There are sections when words are heard—the verse about the crying of children, fearlessly (cries and all) put across by the soprano Jane Manning, and the excerpts from the Declaration, stentorily delivered by Michael Rippon. An American or British composer might have seen that the unexceptionable sentiments are not, as they stand, God's gift to a composer. They need a Beethoven, who would surely have treated them in some other way, and virtually did so in his Masses—one of these smaller ones in C, was on hand in the second half of this concert to point the difference.

Though the kind of effects used are no longer novel, the sheer sound of *Yes speak out yes* is often striking especially in the more restrained moments. The versatile Philharmonia Chorus had a ball. Though the work itself is not likely to become a staple of the London repertoire, we ought to hear more of Halffter's work than we do. As conductor he gave a lucid, sympathetic reading of the Beethoven Mass, a work so totally different from the greater successor in D that there should be a *firmer foothold* for it in the repertoire. For this second half Almudena and Martin Hill joined the soloists already mentioned. Next Friday, the TSO under Atherton introduce *Der Rosenkavalier*, extracts from the new full-length ballet by Maxwell Davies recently seen in Copenhagen.

RONALD CRISPTON



Alun Armstrong and Rachel Davies

Nottingham Playhouse

## One for the Road

by MICHAEL COVENY

Something is up on the Phase Two bungalow estate. A dozen garden gnomes have had their heads severed, a row of cabbages have been painted to look like breasts and someone's Venus de Milo has had arms stuck on it. There is, as one character remarks in this hilarious new comedy by Willy Russell, "something ominously creative about this wave of vandalism."

It is the eve of Dennis's thirtieth birthday, a watershed to be celebrated by dinner with his parents and his friends, Roger and Jane, who also live on the estate. The parents never arrive, despite a series of phone calls to determine the bungalow's location in Mahler Crescent (off Beethoven Close and hard by the local pub, the Crotchet and Quaver). Dennis's wife, Pauline, interrupts his reflective concentration on a Carly Simon record of suburban despair with a long whine about their child's bad language.

I would be less concerned about the standard implied in this performance did I not feel it characteristic of the classics on view at Covent Garden during this current stale season. I cannot recall a time when the 19th century repertory was so under-powered, in performances that are meant to explore and explain the greatness of these fundamental works. This is not to deny the excellence of the company in the Ashton/Macmillan canon, but to advocate a grander approach to the exposition of the masterpieces which remain to us from the Imperial Russian tradition. (There are also buried treasures, dare I remind Covent Garden in the 50th year since Diaghilev's death, of the Ballet Russe repertory which are being ignored and should be shown as decent homage to the great impresario). We need, in sum, illustrations to serve as exemplars and closed doors can be dangerous indications of the second-rate. CLEMENT CRISP

Jane and Roger both diagnose Dennis's problem as sexual at root; she descends on him like a moral voyeur with "Right is a premature ejaculation?" while Roger spots symptoms of the "hump-wish" as a prelude to revealing that Phase Two, under the cloak of a community spirit evidenced in committees and rambling societies, is an adulterous rabbit warren. But when Dennis decides to find freedom on the M6, the others are keen to follow. Operating the repressive tolerance principle, they overlook the supply of aerosol cans stashed in the bureau. But Dennis returns and sets on the sofa with an adulterous leer. The bolt has been shot along with the wild beast inside.

Mike Ockrent's production is a joyous affair, tight and well-placed, even if it does not quite manage to conceal a few rough bumps of plot development towards the end. The four performances are superb, especially that of Alun Armstrong as Dennis. He plays the part with both lightness and sincerity. It is funny and sad that he is tunnelling away under his Marley tiles in the kitchen. Elizabeth Estensen as Pauline has the least fully-rounded character to play, but she performs with rare delicacy of touch and a sort of straggling, anorexic charm. Rachel Davies and Philip Jackson complete a talented quartet.

The play has been queuing up for a West End theatre for some while now and surely it is about time somebody found it. The Comedy would be perfect. This is not a Nottingham production but, somewhat mysteriously, the Playhouse director, Geoffrey Reeves, has been credited with the lighting. Ah well, if he can't find them, I suppose the least he can do is light them.

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Monday March 12 1979

## Challenges for the Nine

HEADS OF Government who attend EEC summit meetings nowadays try to divide their time between issues requiring immediate decisions and those that they simply want to mull over in the hope of reaching a more general, longer-term political consensus. The topics for discussion at the meeting of the European Council that opens in Paris today are likely to fall almost entirely in the latter category. Until only a few days ago, it had been thought that the summit's main task would be to clear up the technical difficulties that have delayed the start of the new European Monetary System (EMS) for more than two months.

Following France's sudden announcement in the middle of last week that it would no longer hold up the system's introduction, this will not affect all be necessary. The Heads of Government are to be spared two days of wrangling over the technical intricacies of the Community's farm pricing arrangements that had caused France to withhold its final endorsement.

### Disruption

Given that there are no other burning issues on which the summit has to produce a final ruling, the Paris meeting looks like being a rather low-key affair, at least as an immediate event. But that is no reason for underestimating the importance of the subjects that are likely to be on the table. Broadly speaking, the Heads of Government will be trying to work out a co-ordinated political approach to most of the major problems now threatening the Community—the social tensions created by low growth and unemployment, and the risk of a serious disruption of energy supplies in the wake of the upheaval in Iran. It will be hard for them to avoid a much wider discussion of the increasingly volatile state of world power relationships in the light of the Indo-Chinese war, the question marks still hanging over a new Soviet-American strategic arms limitation agreement, the precarious situation in Southern Africa, and the unpredictable outcome of events in the explosive area stretching from Turkey via the Middle East to Pakistan.

With President Carter visiting the Middle East, and the success of his mission still in the balance, the Nine are unlikely to want to take a major public initiative. But it would be short-sighted of the European leaders not to think seriously about the implications for Europe of Mr. Carter's diplomacy, whether it succeeds or fails. They will no doubt examine how far the Nine

should seek to play a greater international role at a time of increasing concern throughout the West at the inadequacy of U.S. leadership.

It is in this context that President Giscard d'Estaing will be pursuing his proposal for a summit meeting of the leaders of West European countries (both inside and outside the EEC), the states of the Arab League, and African countries bordering the Mediterranean. His idea is that such a meeting should "look for an agreement that would tighten the ties of solidarity between Europe, Africa and the Arab states" both to improve security and reduce tension and to promote economic development.

It is not a proposal that is likely to receive a very warm reception from his colleagues, many of whom see it as aimed at enhancing French prestige and influence. That however is no reason for not more generally exploring the possibility of the Community putting its economic strength to greater political use.

On the internal front, Mr.

Callaghan will be hoping to make use of the next two days to underline points that the UK has recently been making about the workings of the Common Agricultural Policy and the Community's budget. He does not, apparently, intend to be particularly abrasive. He will, however, seek a general understanding that the present financial system is particularly unfair to the UK, and that something will have to be done about it. He can be expected to repeat Britain's determination to see farm prices frozen, in advance of the resumption of the annual price review by Ministers of Agriculture later in the month. FDC may not find it easy, after one entry negotiation and one re-negotiation, to win general approval for his contention that the UK is unfairly treated.

### New members

That in itself, however, is again no reason why the Community should not take a serious look at how it is working, both internally and externally, as it prepares for three potentially important steps forward—the introduction of EMS, the first direct elections to the European Parliament, and the admission of Greece, Portugal and Spain as new members. As host, President Giscard d'Estaing will want the summit to be a success, particularly as he is under fire at home for his European policies. The EMS decision will no doubt provide plenty of scope for self-congratulation. It is also to be hoped that the Heads of Government will make full use of their time to tackle some of the wider challenges that the Community now faces.

## Local spending on the turn

THERE WAS never any real chance of this year's local rates increases being kept within the 10 per cent mark which Mr. Peter Shore, the Environment Secretary, held out in prospect in November. The hope was doomed at the outset when he announced the cash limit for this year's government grant to local councils. The limit was based upon the rates of increase in pay and other costs. Ministers were still hoping for a rather optimistic sum by November would have been more realistic inflation assumptions, and this put local councils in an impossible situation.

### Assurance

The law forbids them from borrowing to cover a revenue deficit and instinct tells them to avoid having to ask ratepayers for a supplementary rates increase at half year: so rate calls have had to be pitched at a level that appeared safe. The Government's subsequent assurance that the cash limit would be adjusted to allow for the manual workers' settlement and for its policy for the low paid came too late for many councils. Nothing has yet been said about adjusting the limit for other settlements, such as the teachers and the clerical workers, which are still to come. Who can say what the manual workers' comparability study will yield in August or, for that matter, which Minister and which Government local councils will be dealing with when the grant actually comes up for retrospective adjustment next November?

### Magic

"It can be argued that local councils ought to cut back on their expenditure plans in real terms so as to offset pay and other cost increases. This is the logic of the cash limit system. It was also the implication of the Chief Secretary's recent statement about cash inforced.

# Why the steel men won't bend to M. Barre

BY ROBERT MAUTHNER, in Paris



Angry steelworkers from Usinor's Demail plant, protesting against planned job losses, look on as furniture blazes in the street after a raid on the Chamber of Employers' offices in Valenciennes

markets initially won him a great deal of popularity.

The Prime Minister, who has always said that it would take three years for his stabilisation policies to bear fruit, can justly claim a number of successes. The trade deficit which, in 1976, still amounted to more than FF 20bn (about £2.4bn) was halved the following year and moved into a FF 2.5bn surplus in 1978.

As a result of international confidence in M. Barre's policies, as well as the decline of the dollar, the franc has consistently performed well on the exchange markets, even in relation to the hard European currencies.

On the other hand, M. Barre has done much less well on the inflation front, particularly giving his aim to bring down French price rises to something approaching the West German level. The Prime Minister argues that inflation would have been much worse if it had not been for his restrictive policies, but it was still running at 9.7 per cent last year, which was even higher than in 1977.

### Attack on inflation

The official target is to bring down inflation to about 8.5 per cent this year, but in view of the increased cost of imports of oil which is likely to result from the situation in Iran—France is dependent on imports for 75 per cent of its energy needs—this may be no more than a plausibility.

If M. Barre was able to persevere for 24 years with his policies of economic restraint without provoking a major outbreak of industrial unrest, it was because they were judiciously combined with social policies designed to cushion the working population from their worst effects. Though unemployment has been rising fast to its present level of 1.5m, generous unemployment benefits of up to 90 per cent of wages for a year

are its victims.

As long as M. Barre was pursuing the first phase of his stabilisation plan, introduced in September 1976, the Government found it relatively easy to hold the line. Indeed, M. Barre's stubborn refusal to budge from policies which would reduce the rate of inflation, bring the trade balance back into equilibrium and stabilise the franc on the foreign exchange

markets, initially won him a great deal of popularity.

The Prime Minister, who has always said that it would take three years for his stabilisation policies to bear fruit, can justly claim a number of successes. The trade deficit which, in 1976, still amounted to more than FF 20bn (about £2.4bn) was halved the following year and moved into a FF 2.5bn surplus in 1978.

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There were two main elements to M. Barre's latest plan, which was based on the conviction that French industry had been featherbedded for too long and that it must make an all-out effort to modernise itself and become internationally competitive in the harsh post-1973 oil crisis climate.

The first measure taken was to free industrial prices, which had previously been subject to government control, in order to boost industry's falling profit margins and flagging investment.

The second was to oblige those industries which could not stand on their own feet to reorganise themselves into viable and fully competitive entities and to cease pouring government money into "lame ducks" just for the sake of keeping them going and to save jobs.

This policy has been reasonably successful in the case of the textile industry, where the

Government has offered to reduce the early retirement age for all laid-off workers to 55 years and to 50 for those in the toughest jobs, as well as proposing a "golden handshake" of FF 50,000 (about £5,500) to workers who give up their jobs voluntarily.

It has also proposed the creation of special "conversion companies" in which laid-off workers can be retrained for other jobs on full pay.

A FF 3bn government "industrial adaptation fund" has promised help in creating some 12,000 jobs in Lorraine and the north of France and other affected areas. The government is also pressing Ford Motor to site its projected new European assembly plant in eastern France. All to no avail. The steelworkers want jobs and nothing but jobs.

However, well-founded arguments are, there can be no doubt that it has handled the situation with an extraordinary lack of sensitivity and imagination.

The industry's problems were further underlined by M. Claude Etchegaray, the new chairman appointed by the Government to head the Usinor group, one of the two leading companies. The group, he said, was faced with the obligation of balancing its accounts by 1980-81 and had to finance investments of FF 600m per year over a three-year period.

It was again expected to make a loss of FF 1bn (about £115m) in 1979 after a deficit of FF 1.2bn last year. The margin for modifying the restructuring plan was therefore very small.

In spite of a whole panoply of fiscal measures announced by

## MEN AND MATTERS

### Rolling in the Eady money



Eady money. In fact, all the payees listed by the Board of Trade are distributors.

"The market is so unhealthy," says Craven, "that the few films that are making money are probably the ones that do not need . . ."

"In all it is going to make, with its 6 per cent allocation of the box-office, about £750,000," says Richard Craven, an independent producer who started the AIP.

Craven and his colleagues have just succeeded in persuading the Department of Trade to publish the distribution of Eady money for the first time. The two sets of figures published so far indicate what he suspected: that 60 per cent of the Eady Levy is going to makers of sex films, and a large part of the remainder to second-rate support films some with more than a hint of sponsorship in them. Often enough these films are bought outright by the distributor, on terms which usually involve him keeping all the

more philosophical may reflect that individual syndicates have often been burdened with large losses, as when Burt Lancaster's *Betsy* last did the rounds in the mid-70s.

The less philosophical, or less wealthy, may prefer to recall

the celebrated Harrison affair. Harrison's five-man syndicate came to grief in 1923 on dubious credit insurance business. It was found that the syndicate had liabilities of at least £20,000, which eventually turned out to be £36,787 pre-decimal pounds.

The then chairman, Arthur Sturge, persuaded the Lloyd's community to do the decent thing and pay up, a precedent which must be a consolation in some quarters over in Lime Street.

**Shadow men**

In Brazil, which has lately enjoyed a certain relaxation of Government control, censorship has 10%, whatever appeal it once had. Even the police I have no wish to be censors. Colonel Moscic Coelho, the police director-general, says he does not mind who does the censoring "just as long as we don't have to do it."

One can see what he means: "The film 'Clockwork Orange,' banned for years, has just been released intact. The censor's job was confined to the tedious painting-in of thousands of discreet shadow patches to protect the innocent. Not very long ago, Brazil's blue-pencil men could make their mark on anything they liked, or bar it if the mood took them."

In the new mood of freedom, censorship is just no fun any more—a pernickety activity which earns the censor no friends (despite official concern with controlling at least pornography and overtly-Marxist publications). The latest to turn down the job has been the Department of Education.

With each member standing to lose an average of £156,000, and one or two of the supremely unfortunate facing a bill of £351,000, it is a matter of some importance to them at least.

The more philosophical may reflect that individual syndicates have often been burdened with large losses, as when Burt Lancaster's *Betsy* last did the rounds in the mid-70s.

The less philosophical, or less wealthy, may prefer to recall

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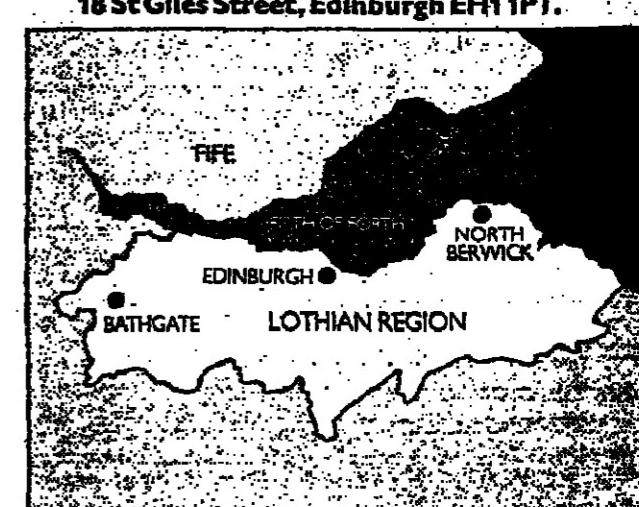
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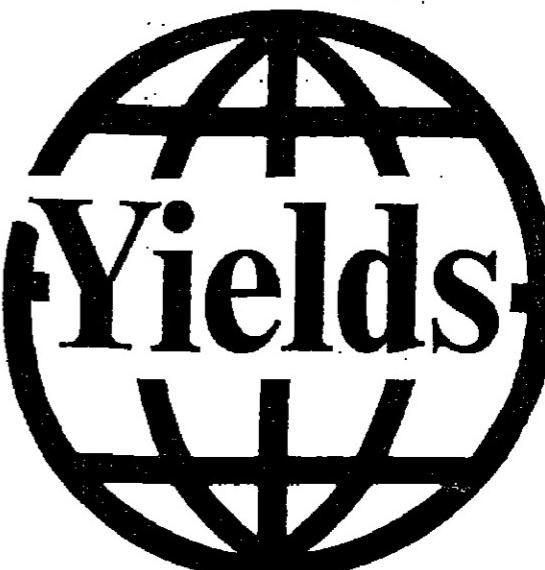
DEVELOP WITH THE  
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Observer

FINANCIAL TIMES

# Eurobond Quotations and Yields

ABD

THE ASSOCIATION OF  
INTERNATIONAL BOND DEALERS

At 28th FEBRUARY 1979

The Association of International Bond Dealers (AIBD) compiles current market quotations and yields for Eurobond issues. These quotations and yields are published monthly by the Financial Times. The Association's prices and yields are compiled from quotations obtained from market-makers on the last working day of each month. There is no single stock exchange for Eurobonds in the usually recognised sense - secondary market trading is done on the telephone between dealers scattered across the world's major financial centres. Membership of the AIBD (which was established in 1969) comprises over 450 institutions from about 27 countries.

## Eurobonds in February

BY FRANCIS GHILES

February will go down in the mark sector was also going through a difficult period. The greater stability of the month which witnessed the sudden opening up of the new issue market for straight dollar denominated bonds: two and a half weeks later however the door was slammed. About \$1.75bn worth of new issues had been floated in the meantime though how much of the bonds had been placed in firm hands remains a favourite subject of debate in the bond fraternity.

While the dollar sector was struggling with these new issues, the overloaded Deutsch-

mark sector was also going through a difficult period. The greater stability of the month which witnessed the sudden opening up of the new issue market for straight dollar denominated bonds: two and a half weeks later however the door was slammed. About \$1.75bn worth of new issues had been floated in the meantime though how much of the bonds had been placed in firm hands remains a favourite subject of debate in the bond fraternity.

Finally, at the end of the month, with all the other sectors of the market in full retreat, the sterling sector, riding on the back of the rather unusual events in the gilt edged market

remained a favourite subject of debate in the bond fraternity.

One striking feature of the new issues was the number of U.S. names among the borrowers: one could say they dominated it. U.S. corporations have tended to disregard the eurobond markets for their dollar needs in recent years, apparently feeling that the U.S. bond market served their needs better. The speed with which a eurobond offering can be mounted appears to have been a major reason why so many U.S. names decided to have a go on this side of the Atlantic. Speed is essential when interest rates subscribe briefly as they did last month.

The protracted procedures any borrower has to go through in New York, where the agreement of the Securities and Exchange Commission is required

may not be a major hurdle when exchange and interest rates are stable, but it can be in the current volatile climate.

Another factor which may lie behind the rush of American names is that many treasurers believe that inflationary pressures in the U.S. this year could lead to a protracted period of

high interest rates, particularly if the U.S. economy remains resilient in the face of the rise in energy prices. A eurobond which includes a yield of 10 per cent or just under is thus viewed as a reasonable proposition, all the more in view of the provisions for very early calls which are increasingly included. This technique which allows the offerings to be retired early if interest rates subside next year offers an efficient insurance for the borrower.

Another interesting feature of the new issues is that most of them have been taken firm by the banks: underwriting and selling groups have thus often been done way with: two reasons may help to explain this shift in technique. One that

includes a weakening of the Yen against the dollar, the poor performance of the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the increased pressure on the price of oil, which would directly affect a motor company.

Japanese convertibles also suffered badly in the Deutsche Mark sector. The number of Japanese DM convertibles for the second quarter is being sharply reduced and a massive switch into the Swiss Franc sector is being planned in Tokyo.

In the dollar sector, the star casualty last month was the Honda convertible: it was hit by a combination of factors which included a weakening of the Yen against the dollar, the poor performance of the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the increased pressure on the price of oil, which would directly affect a motor company.

Japanese convertibles also suffered badly in the Deutsche Mark sector. The number of Japanese DM convertibles for the second quarter is being sharply reduced and a massive switch into the Swiss Franc sector is being planned in Tokyo.

The Deutsche Mark sector has been morose for much of the month as the coupons on foreign bonds were brought into line with the higher interest rates prevailing on domestic issues.

Their fears were borne out in the performance of many

issues which moved to a sharp discount once they started trading. In many instances the yield in the secondary market moved above 10 per cent.

By the end of the month the flow of investor funds into the market had virtually dried up: the authorities in Switzerland, West Germany and Japan were taking measures to tighten credit to counter the inflationary effects of higher oil prices and further rises in U.S. interest rates were feared.

Political uncertainties around the world also made for caution. Prices in the secondary market were broadly retreating.

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success of a major domestic bond.

Activity increased somewhat as did prices in the secondary sector: this trend was expected to continue, helped by the sharp cut in the new issue calendar for March.

The one exception to the dismal scene in the markets at the end of February was the UK Government bond market:

foreign applications for gilt edge offerings were very high because the return on the stocks between 131-134 per cent was considered very attractive given expectations that sterling will remain steady and that the UK economy is in part insulated from the worst effects of higher OPEC prices by North Sea oil.

Demand for gilt edged spilled over into the Eurosterling sector of the bond market. This prompted Finance for Industry to issue a £10m (later raised to £15m) bond with a 12-year maturity and a 13 per cent coupon. The anonymity with which investors can buy

sterling eurobonds help to explain why the yield on such issues is usually lower than that available on the equivalent gilt edge stock.

The issue which was priced at par traded at a premium when it opened in the secondary market.

The Swiss Franc sector was very active with a record number of new issues, many in the form of private placements.

Foreign governments, particularly Commonwealth countries, were among the heaviest borrowers.

COMPILED FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL BOND DEALERS BY INTERBOND SERVICES LTD.

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The table of quotations and yields gives the latest rates available on 31st January, 1979. This information is from reports from official and other sources which the Association of International Bond Dealers considers to be reliable, but adequate means of checking its accuracy are not available and the Association does not guarantee that the information it contains is accurate or complete.

All rates quoted are for indication purposes only and are not based on, nor are they intended to be used as a basis for particular transactions. In quoting the rates the Association does not undertake that its members will trade in all the listed Eurobonds and the Association's members and the Financial Times Limited do not accept any responsibility for errors in the table.

Extracts from the Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1978.

## البنك العربي الافريقي الدولي arab african international bank

ASSETS	1978	1977
	000\$	000\$
Cash and Due from Banks	135 163	112 325
Fixed Deposits with Banks and Certificates of Deposit	302 775	168 667
Marketable Securities	14 968	6 557
Government Bonds	26 059	22 503
Investments in Affiliated and Associated Companies	14 486	8 385
Other Securities	2 966	2 740
Loans, Advances and Bills Discounted	636 324	440 073
Other Debit Accounts	20 472	16 745
Fixed Assets (after depreciation)	6 990	1 513
 Clients' Liabilities for Letters of Credit and Letters of Guarantee (as per contra)	1 160 203	779 508
	318 019	222 893
 Grand Total	1 478 222	1 002 401
 LIABILITIES		
Demand and Fixed Deposits	476 117	525 982
Time and Fixed Deposits from Banks	491 983	229 404
Bank Borrowings	34 259	96 570
Dividends for 1978	4 858	4 000
Other Credit Accounts and Provisions	57 020	45 298
 CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Authorised Capital, Fully Subscribed	100 000*	40 000
Paid-Up Capital	6 829	4 931
Statutory Reserve (share premium included)	38 475	32 675
General Reserve	662	648
Profit Carried Forward		
Bank's Liability for Letters of Credit and Letters of Guarantee (as per contra)	1 160 203	779 508
	318 019	222 893
 Grand Total	1 478 222	1 002 401

(The total dividend for this year amounted to 11%, against 10% in the preceding year)

\* Authorised Capital in 1977 was US\$ 40 M.

+ US\$ 10 M was paid on 1st August 1978.

International Head Office:  
44, Abdel Khalek Sarwat Street, Cairo. Telephone: 920 390 - 916 710 - 916 744.  
Telex: ARBFR 92071 - ARBERO 363 - AABEX 93600 - ARABEX 304 - ARABEX 306.

All of these securities having been sold, this announcement appears as a matter of record only.

8th March, 1979



## Nippon Meat Packers, Inc.

(Nippon Ham Kabushiki Kaisha)

### 12,000,000 Shares of Common Stock

represented by Continental Depositary Receipts

ISSUE PRICE US \$2.973 PER SHARE

Yamaichi International (Europe) Limited

J. Henry Schroder Wag & Co. Limited

Credit Lyonnais

Credit Suisse First Boston Limited

Goldman Sachs International Corp.

Merrill Lynch International & Co. Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited

The Nikko Securities Co., (Europe) Ltd.

New Japan Securities Europe Ltd.

Abu Dhabi Investment Company Alahli Bank of Kuwait (K.S.C.) Algemene Bank Nederland N.V. A.E. Ames & Co. Limited

Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V. Banca Commerciale Italiana Banca del Giardino Banca Nazionale del Lavoro

Banco di Roma Bank Gutwille, Kurz, Bungen (Overseas) Bank Leu International Ltd. Bank Mees & Hope NV

Banque Bruxelles Lambert S.A. Banque Francaise du Commerce Exterieur Banque de l'Indochine et de Suez

Banque Nationale de Paris Banque de Neufville, Schlumberger, Mallet Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas

Banque Populaire Suisse S.A. Luxembourg Banque Rothschild Banque de l'Union Europeenne Banque Worms

Baring Brothers & Co. Bayerische Vereinsbank Berliner Handels- und Frankfurter Bank

Blyth Eastman Dillon & Co. International Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations W. I. Carr, Sons & Co. London

Cazenove & Co. (Overseas) Christiania Bank og Kreditkasse Continental Illinois County Bank

Creditanstalt-Bankverein Crédit Commercial de France Crédit Industriel et Commercial Crédit du Nord

Daiwa Europe N.V. Deutsche Bank Aktiengesellschaft Dewazy & Associés International Société Anonyme



**It takes more than tape  
to record growth.**



Three TDK Super AMLYN headphones are shown side-by-side. Each model has a black headband with silver accents and a black padded earcup. The left model has 'SUPER' printed above 'AMLYN'. The middle model has 'SUPER' printed above 'AMLYN' and 'TDK' printed below it. The right model has 'SUPER' printed above 'AMLYN' and 'TDK' printed below it.

The image shows four identical boxes for 'TDK SUPER ALYN' cassette tapes. Each box is black with white text. The top line reads 'TDK'. Below it, 'SUPER' is written above the word 'ALYN' in large letters. At the bottom, 'CASSETTE TAPE' is printed.

**VHS**  
**E-180**

# Austrian Quotes

## Quotations and Yields of Austrian Eurobonds

ISSUE	COUPON DATES	REPAYMENT	SINKING FUND (STARTING)	PRICE		CURRENT YIELD	CURRENT YIELD TO MATURITY
				BID	ASKED		
<b>D-MARK BONDS</b>							
6 1/2% Brenner Autobahn 1968 (G) .....	1.2-1.8	1.8.71-83	1.8.73	100 1/2	101 1/2	6.69%	6.62%
6 1/2% Donaukraftwerke 1959 (G) .....	1.2-1.8	1.2.65-84	—	100	100 1/2	5.98%	6.01%
6 1/2% Donaukraftwerke 1973 (G) .....	1.3	1.3.73-87	1.12.77	100 1/2	101	6.70%	6.63%
7% Girozentrale Wien 1976 .....	1.11	1.11.81	—	102 1/2	103	6.82%	5.92%
7 1/2% Girozentrale Wien 1976 .....	1.11	1.11.83	—	104 1/2	105 1/2	6.91%	6.03%
8 1/2% IAKW 1975 (G) .....	1.5	1.5.80-85	—	105 1/2	105 1/2	8.28%	7.59%
8 1/2% Kelag 1973 (S) .....	1.5	1.5.78-88	1.2.78	100 1/2	101 1/2	6.68%	6.60%
8 1/2% Oester. Draukraftwerke 1975 (G) .....	1.3	1.3.81-85	—	105 1/2	106 1/2	8.25%	7.49%
7% Oester. Elektrizateswirt 1967 (G) .....	1.2-1.8	1.2.73-87	—	101 1/2	102	6.89%	6.83%
7% Rep. Oesterreich 1968 .....	1.4-1.10	1.4.73-82	1.4.72	101 1/2	102 1/2	6.92%	6.88%
6 1/2% Rep. Oesterreich 1969 .....	1.4-1.10	1.4.75-83	1.1.74	101 1/2	102 1/2	6.38%	6.07%
9 1/2% Rep. Oesterreich 1975 .....	1.2	1.2.83	—	106 1/2	107 1/2	8.42%	6.97%
8 1/2% Rep. Oesterreich 1975 .....	1.5	1.5.78-87	1.2.77	105 1/2	106 1/2	8.01%	7.48%
7 1/2% Rep. Oesterreich 1976 .....	2.5	2.5.83-86	1.2.82	104 1/2	105	7.40%	6.80%
6 1/2% Rep. Oesterreich 1977 .....	1.4	1.4.83-85	2.1.82	104	103	6.58%	6.22%
8 1/2% Tauernkraftwerke 1968 (G) .....	1.3-1.9	1.9.74-83	1.9.73	100 1/2	101 1/2	6.42%	6.28%
7% Tauernkraftwerke 1968 (G) .....	1.2-1.8	1.2.74-83	—	104 1/2	102 1/2	6.55%	6.44%
9 1/2% Tauernautobahn 1974 (G) .....	1.7	1.7.81	—	101 1/2	108 1/2	8.79%	5.73%
8 1/2% Voest 1973 .....	1.10	1.10.78-88	1.6.73	102 1/2	105 1/2	8.11%	7.79%
8 1/2% Voest 1975 .....	1.6	1.6.81-85	—	101	105	8.13%	7.58%
8 1/2% Voest 1977 .....	1.6	1.6.84-89	—	102	100 1/2	6.72%	6.68%
7% Wien 1968 .....	1.6-1.12	1.6.74-83	1.6.73	107 1/2	102	6.88%	6.58%
8 1/2% Wien 1975 .....	1.8	1.8.79-84	—	104 1/2	105 1/2	7.88%	7.17%
<b>U.S. BONDS</b>							
6% Rep. Austria 1964 .....	31.1-31.7	31.1.71-84	3.1.70	97 1/2	98 1/2	6.12%	6.58%
6 1/2% Rep. Austria 1967 .....	15.3-15.8	15.3.72-82	15.3.71	97 1/2	98 1/2	8.59%	7.60%
8 1/2% Rep. Austria 1976 .....	15.8	15.8.78-90	15.8.77	95 1/2	96	9.14%	9.36%
6 1/2% Aust. Electricity 1966 (G) .....	1.1-1.7	1.7.70-86	1.7.69	98	98 1/2	6.73%	7.01%
6 1/2% Aust. Electricity 1967 (G) .....	1.4-1.10	1.10.71-82	1.10.70	98	98 1/2	6.86%	7.37%
5 1/2% Alpine Montan 1965 (G) .....	15.6	15.6.72-85	15.6.71	93	93 1/2	6.16%	7.07%
8 1/2% Tauernautobahn 1977 (G) .....	15.3	15.3.83-87	15.3.82	92 1/2	93 1/2	3.57%	9.51%
6 1/2% Transalpine Fin. Hdg. 1966 .....	31.10	31.10.70-85	11.10.69	93 1/2	94 1/2	6.90%	7.61%
6 1/2% Transalpine Fin. Hdg. 1966 .....	31.7	31.7.70-85	13.1.69	94 1/2	95 1/2	7.09%	7.70%
6 1/2% Transalpine Fin. Hdg. 1967 .....	31.1	31.1.73-82	31.1.72	97 1/2	98 1/2	6.89%	7.52%
6 1/2% Transalpine Fin. Hdg. 1987 .....	30.4	30.4.74-83	30.4.73	97 1/2	98 1/2	6.87%	7.24%
7 1/2% Trans-Austria Gasline 1973 .....	15.1	15.1.77-88	15.1.76	84 1/2	85 1/2	8.82%	10.09%
<b>AUSTRIA SCHILLING BONDS</b>							
9 1/2% Kontrollbank 1974 (G) .....	14.8	14.8.79	—	100 1/2	101 1/2	9.42%	7.80%
<b>DOMESTIC ISSUES</b>							
8% Investitionsanleihe 1973/B .....	15.2	15.2.77-81 (101)	—	101 1/2	102 1/2	7.84%	7.34%
8% Investitionsanleihe 1973/II/B .....	3.7	3.7.78-81 (102)	—	102	102 1/2	7.84%	7.81%
8% Investitionsanleihe 1974/B .....	1.4	1.4.76-82 (104.50)	R	104 1/2	105 1/2	7.64%	7.56%
8 1/2% Investitionsanleihe 1974/II/B .....	22.10	22.10.75-82	—	101 1/2	102 1/2	8.33%	7.82%
8 1/2% Investitionsanleihe 1975/II/B .....	11.6	11.6.76-84 (103)	—	103 1/2	104	8.21%	8.12%
8 1/2% Investitionsanleihe 1975/S/II .....	25.7	25.7.76-85 (103)	—	104 1/2	105	8.11%	7.89%
8 1/2% Investitionsanleihe 1975/III/B .....	28.10	28.10.76-84 (103)	—	103 1/2	104 1/2	8.19%	8.07%
8 1/2% Investitionsanleihe 1975/S/III/IV .....	27.12	27.12.79-88 (103.50)	—	105 1/2	106 1/2	8.04%	7.77%
8 1/2% Investitionsanleihe 1975/V/B .....	12.12	12.12.79-85 (103.50)	—	105 1/2	106 1/2	8.06%	7.82%
8 1/2% Investitionsanleihe 1976/S .....	20.2	20.2.81-86 (104)	—	105 1/2	106 1/2	8.06%	7.89%
8% Investitionsanleihe 1977/S/III/B .....	2.6	2.6.82-87	—	102 1/2	103	7.77%	7.49%
8% Investitionsanleihe 1977/II/B .....	15.9	15.9.82-86	—	102 1/2	103	7.77%	7.47%
8% Investitionsanleihe 1977/III/B .....	20.12	20.12.82-86	—	102 1/2	103	7.77%	7.47%
8% Wasserwirtschaftsfondsamt 1977/III .....	3.6	3.6.82-86	—	102 1/2	103	7.90%	7.76%
8 1/2% Energieanleihe 1975/IIB U.S. ....	29.10	29.10.79-85 (103.50)	—	105 1/2	106 1/2	8.06%	7.81%
8 1/2% Wiener Stadtanleihe 1975/B .....	29.4	29.4.76-83	—	101 1/2	102 1/2	8.29%	7.76%
8% Wiener Stadtanleihe 1977/A .....	10.5	10.5.78-82	—	102	102 1/2	7.77%	7.63%
8% Wiener Stadtanleihe 1977/B .....	10.5	10.5.78-82	—	102	102 1/2	7.77%	7.49%
8% Europ. Investitionsbank Anl. 1976 .....	20.10	20.10.80-86	—	103	102 1/2	7.79%	7.50%
8% Inter-Am. Entwicklungsbk Anl. 1976 .....	17.12	17.12.81-86	—	101 1/2	102 1/2	7.84%	7.64%
8% Tag Finco Anleihe 1976 .....	19.11	19.11.81-86	—	101 1/2	102 1/2	7.84%	7.64%
8% Smarhofer Anleihe 1976/II/B .....	21.10	21.10.77-83 (101)	—	102 1/2	102 1/2	8.25%	7.57%

tions are based on the middle price.

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ISIN EQUITY CODE	ISSUER/COMPANY	PRICE	INVESTMENT PERIOD	VALUATION DATE	CURRENT MARKET VALUATION	YIELD TO MATERIAL DATE	YIELD TO MATURITY	AMOUNT PER UNIT
ISIN DEBT CODE	ISSUER/COMPANY	PRICE	INVESTMENT PERIOD	VALUATION DATE	CURRENT MARKET VALUATION	YIELD TO MATERIAL DATE	YIELD TO MATURITY	AMOUNT PER UNIT
EURO UNITS OF ACCOUNT (CONTINUED)								
20- 17-8	1974 FEDERAL UNION KIRCHMAYER	102 1/8	9.58	8.62	8.67	80	7.70	60
96-00	8.73 22/ 2/1982	8.50	8.58	103	1979	1975	5.0	96-30
12- 5-0	1968 KLEIN-PAPER GROUP	143 3/4	6.63	7.65	7.05	90	1.00	100
96-50	6.73 13/ 6/1982	2.63	8.59	102	1979	1969	1.00	99-30
22- 22-0	1978* S.D.R. - FRANCE	92 3/8	14.35	8.04	7.67	60	2.20	50
99-50	7.00 3/ 7/1982	9.85	8.33	102 1/2	1984	1984	2.20	100-00
12- 6-4	1971 S.D.R. - FRANCE	146 3/8	7.25	8.46	8.21	90C	.50	100
100-00	8.00 6/ 7/1982	3.85	8.59	102	1979	1972	.50	94-00
22- 21-0	1975 S.D.R. - FRANCE	104	7.65	8.64	9.00	8.39	30	2.00
100-00	9.25 15/ 12/1982	4.34	8.53	102	1980	1980	2.00	100-00
25- 23-0	1975 S.D.R. - FRANCE	104 3/8	8.18	8.64	9.22	5.33	60	2.00
99-50	9.50 3/ 5/1982	4.34	8.70	102	1979	1978	2.00	100
15- 10-7	1971 S.E.C.T.	147 1/8	7.07	8.13	7.91	120	.90	125
99-50	7.75 25/ 3/1982	4.06	8.34	101 3/4	1979	1972	.90	125-0
8- 4-8	1975 SAINT ETIENNE, CITY OF	102 5/8	3.36	9.07	9.40	90	1.20	150
100-00	9.50 6/ 7/1982	1.86	8.82	101 1/2	1979	1978	1.20	150-0
8- 5-2	1969 SCOTLAND HYDRO/ELECTRIC	145 5/8	5.78	8.67	8.25	90C	.40	100-00
98-80	8.00 16/12/1982	4.10	8.90	101 1/4	1979	1970	.40	100-00
20- 12-6	1970 SOUTH AFRICA, REPUBLIC OF	146 1/8	3.84	9.60	8.99	120	2.45	300
98-00	8.75 30/ 1/1982	2.45	10.04	101 1/4	1979	1971	2.45	100-00
40- 35-2	1973 STANDARD OIL OF INDIANA	101 5/4	9.63	7.91	7.96	30	.80	250
100-00	8.00 15/10/1982	7.91	7.90	102	1979	DPI1974	.80	100-00
20- 9-0	1975 STATESPOWER	106 5/8	6.83	8.19	8.78	1.25	150	100-00
99-00	5.25 29/ 12/1982	2.75	9.25	102 1/2	1979	1978	1.25	100-00
12- 6-0	1969 WATERWAY MATH INT FIN.	145 1/2	5.29	7.72	7.22	90C	1.00	100-00
98-00	7.00 13/ 6/1982	2.79	8.26	102 1/2	1979	1978	1.00	100-00
FRENCH FRANCS (CONTINUED)								
20- 17-8	1974 ROUSSEL-UCLAF	99 1/4	8.79	7.95	7.05	5.60	7	1977
98-00	8.50 15/ 12/1979	7.00	8.50	102	1979	1972	5.60	1966
12- 5-0	1975 SAINT GOWAN	102	8.70	8.63	8.80	100-00	7-0	1975
99-50	10.00 10/ 11/1980	9.50	8.75	1/ 7/1982	1978	1978	100-00	1975
22- 22-0	1975* S.D.R. - FRANCE	101 1/8	8.42	8.80	9.64	100-00	5	1977
99-50	9.75 31/ 7/1982	9.75	8.50	100-00	1975	1978	100-00	1977
12- 6-4	1973 STAR EUROPEAN FIN.	90 1/8	9.28	11.59	9.96	6.00	5	1976
100-00	8.00 15/ 6/1982	5.62	12.21	102 1/2	1979	1978	6.00	100-00
22- 21-0	1975 PECHINEY-DIGEOR KIRCHMAYER	102 1/8	2.85	9.10	9.79	100-00	10-0	1976
100-00	9.25 15/ 12/1982	4.34	8.53	102	1980	1980	100-00	100-00
25- 23-0	1975 S.D.R. - FRANCE	104 3/8	8.18	8.64	9.22	5.33	100	100-00
99-50	9.50 3/ 5/1982	4.34	8.70	102	1979	1978	2.00	100-00
15- 10-7	1971 PEUGEOT	147 1/8	7.07	8.13	7.91	120	1.00	125
99-50	7.75 25/ 3/1982	4.06	8.34	101 3/4	1979	1972	1.00	125-0
8- 4-8	1975 SAINT ETIENNE, CITY OF	102 5/8	3.36	9.07	9.40	90	1.20	150
100-00	9.50 6/ 7/1982	1.86	8.82	101 1/2	1979	1978	1.20	150-0
8- 5-2	1969 HONGKONG DOLLARS	145 5/8	5.78	8.67	8.25	90C	.40	100-00
98-80	8.00 16/12/1982	4.10	8.90	101 1/4	1979	1970	.40	100-00
20- 12-6	1970 HONGKONG LAND INTL	146 1/8	3.84	9.60	8.99	120	2.45	300
98-00	8.75 30/ 1/1982	2.45	10.04	101 1/4	1979	1971	2.45	100-00
40- 35-2	1973 JARDINE MATHERSON BERMUDA	104 1/2	6.29	10.75	8.58	30	100-00	1972
100-00	8.00 15/ 6/1982	7.25	7.90	102	1979	DPI1974	30	100-00
20- 9-0	1975 MANITOBA, PROVINCE OF	106 5/8	6.83	8.19	8.78	1.25	150	100-00
99-00	5.25 29/ 12/1982	2.75	9.25	102 1/2	1979	1978	1.25	100-00
12- 6-0	1969 WATERWAY MATH INT FIN.	145 1/2	5.29	7.72	7.22	90C	1.00	100-00
98-00	7.00 13/ 6/1982	2.79	8.26	102 1/2	1979	1978	1.00	100-00
SINGAPORE DOLLARS (CONTINUED)								
20- 17-8	1977 TELSTON MEXICANOS	100 3/4	8.79	8.37	8.46	8.24	80	35
98-00	8.50 15/ 12/1982	8.50	8.50	102	1979	1972	80	100-00
12- 5-0	1975 PEDROLO MEXICANOS	101 7/8	6.34	8.34	8.39	30	100-00	1977
99-50	7.75 15/ 4/1983	6.75	8.34	100-00	1975	1978	30	100-00
22- 22-0	1977 PHILIPPINES, REPUBLIC OF	100 1/8	4.13	8.75	9.95	60	5	1977
99-50	9.25 15/ 4/1983	5.60	8.50	100-00	1975	1978	60	100-00
12- 6-4	1976 PTEBRAZIA BANCA	102 5/8	3.67	9.01	9.19	100-00	4	1965
100-00	9.25 1/ 7/1982	2.17	8.92	102	1979	1978	4	97-75
22- 21-0	1976 PTEBRAZIA BANCA	102 1/2	3.21	8.63	8.78	100-00	4-0	1966
100-00	10.00 5/ 1/1982	3.62	8.57	102 1/2	1979	1978	4-0	97-75
25- 23-0	1976 SANTO-MARCO BANCA	100 3/4	7.16	8.60	8.64	8.02	100-00	1966
99-50	8.75 1/ 3/1982	3.24	8.57	101	1980	1980	8.02	100-00
12- 6-0	1976 SANTO-MARCO BANCA	101 3/4	6.72	9.42	9.83	45	7-0	1976
100-00	10.00 10/ 10/1982	3.45	8.36	100 1/2	1983	1983	45	100-00
23- 22-0	1976 SOZINAKH	102 1/2	3.45	8.75	8.70	30	12	1976
99-50	10.00 1/ 4/1982	3.05	8.50	101	1980	1980	30	100-00
12- 6-0	1976 TURKISH PETROL	101 3/4	7.21	11.07	10.00	45	7	1976
100-00	9.50 15/ 3/1982	5.13	9.25	101 1/2	1979	1977	45	100-00
20- 17-8	1976 TURKISH PETROL	101 1/2	3.51	7.60	8.62	60	20	1976
98-00	8.75 30/ 6/1982	3.05	8.75	101	1979	1979	60	100-00
12- 6-0	1976 TURKISH PETROL	101 1/2	3.51	7.60	8.62	60	100-00	1976
100-00	9.25 30/ 6/1982	3.05	8.75	101	1979	1979	60	100-00
25- 23-0	1976 TURKISH PETROL	101 1/2	3.51	7.60	8.62	60	100-00	1976
99-50	9.25 30/ 6/1982	3.05	8.75	101	1979	1979	60	100-00
12- 6-0	1976 TURKISH PETROL	101 1/2	3.51	7.60	8.62	60	100-00	1976
100-00	9.25 30/ 6/1982	3.05	8.75	101	1979	1979	60	100-00
20- 17-8	1976 TURKISH PETROL	101 1/2	3.51	7.60	8.62	60	100-00	1976
98-00	9.25 30/ 6/1982	3.05	8.					

## **INVESTMENT FUNDS**

The following funds include Eurobond issues within their portfolios

SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE De BANQUE

**BANQUE GENERALE DU LUXEMBOURG**

28th FEBRUARY, 1979

## WestLB Euro-Deutschmarkbond Quotations and Yields

Advertisement

Issue	Middle Price	Current Yield	Life*	Yield to Maturity	Repayment D-mandatory drawing by lot or per S-sinking fund	Issue	Middle Price	Current Yield	Life*	Yield to Maturity	Repayment D-mandatory drawing by lot or per S-sinking fund	Issue	Middle Price	Current Yield	Life*	Yield to Maturity	Repayment D-mandatory drawing by lot or per S-sinking fund						
<b>ADELA 76/83</b>																							
ADELA 77/82P	101.00	7.77	3.98	8.91	1. 4.83	96.00	9.73	6.37	6.28	15. 3.84 - 86D	93.82	5.87	9.13	6.53	11. 1.88 - 88D	92.00	6.89	2.17	5.48	1. 5.87			
ADELA 78/82	100.50	6.57	3.42	8.81	1. 6.82	95.00	6.57	5.94	5.90	1. 2.22 - 84D	90.50	5.57	6.54	6.53	1. 2.22 - 84D	90.00	6.88	5.78	6.67	1. 4.80 - 89S			
Airport Bank 69/84P (G)	101.35	5.32	1.41	4.98	1. 2.72 - 81D	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 69/84	100.50	5.37	2.94	5.90	1. 2.22 - 84D	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 69/84	103.00	6.80	5.08	6.00	1. 11.75 - 84D	98.50	6.82	5.24	10.80	1. 10.80 - 88S	
AIRCO 75/82	99.50	6.53	2.94	8.89	1. 3.75 - 84D	7% Euro. Inv. Bank 69/84	100.50	6.80	3.08	6.00	1. 11.75 - 84D	7% Euro. Inv. Bank 69/84	103.00	6.80	3.08	6.00	1. 11.75 - 84D	98.50	6.82	5.24	10.80	1. 10.80 - 88S	
AIRCO 75/83	101.50	6.53	2.94	8.89	1. 3.75 - 84D	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 70/80	102.50	7.50	7.80	5.83	1. 5.80	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 70/80	103.75	7.25	8.25	8.49	1. 3.77 - 86D	95.50	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53	
AIRCO 76/84	98.00	6.06	3.08	8.23	1. 4.84	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 70/80	103.75	7.25	8.25	8.49	1. 3.77 - 86D	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 70/80	104.50	7.25	8.25	8.49	1. 3.77 - 86D	95.50	6.86	6.83	6.58	1. 8.84 - 89S	
Alusuisse Int'l. 76/83	104.50	7.89	3.40	6.70	1. 8.81 - 83D	6% Euro. Inv. Bank 72/87	100.75	5.45	4.24	6.30	1. 12.78 - 87D	6% Euro. Inv. Bank 72/87	102.50	5.45	4.24	6.30	1. 12.78 - 87D	104.25	8.15	3.25	6.99	1. 2.80 - 84S	
AMEX Int'l. 77/84P	96.75	5.68	7.87	6.03	1. 15.87	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 72/87	93.10	6.12	6.46	6.46	1. 8.80 - 87D	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 72/87	96.25	6.12	6.46	6.46	1. 8.80 - 87D	104.00	7.99	1.07	6.35	1. 11.84 - 89S	
ARMCO 78/85	105.80	9.45	1.73	4.98	1. 12.72 - 81D	7% Euro. Inv. Bank 73/88	100.75	6.70	4.50	5.85	1. 2.78 - 88S	7% Euro. Inv. Bank 73/88	103.00	6.80	5.08	6.00	1. 11.75 - 88S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 73/88	95.50	6.80	5.24	10.80	1. 10.80 - 88S
ARMED Finance 76/83P	102.00	7.50	4.67	7.21	1. 11.63	10% Euro. Inv. Bank 74/91P	101.25	6.80	5.00	5.88	1. 1.75 - 88S	10% Euro. Inv. Bank 74/91P	102.75	7.79	1.75	6.28	1. 12.80	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 74/91P	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Ardu-Sundel 75/81P	99.00	6.82	8.25	6.91	1. 8.83 - 87S	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 75/80	102.75	7.79	1.75	6.28	1. 12.80	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 75/80	104.50	7.89	1.81	6.30	1. 8.83 - 87S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 75/80	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Ardu-Sundel 76/81P	104.25	8.32	2.93	6.89	1. 7.81	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 75/80	106.25	6.54	5.84	5.95	1. 1.81 - 83D	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 75/80	104.50	7.89	1.81	6.30	1. 8.83 - 87S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 75/80	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Argentina 67/79	100.70	6.89	7.65	6.80	1. 12.78 - 88D	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 76/83P	105.50	7.75	4.58	6.32	1. 10.83	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 76/83P	106.25	7.75	4.58	6.32	1. 10.83	98.00	8.04	1.25	5.66	1. 8.80	
Argentina 68/79	100.50	7.96	7.75	7.41	1. 12.78	7% Euro. Inv. Bank 77/88	105.25	6.30	5.74	6.50	1. 12.78 - 88D	7% Euro. Inv. Bank 77/88	106.50	6.25	5.45	6.50	1. 12.78 - 88D	98.00	8.04	1.25	5.66	1. 8.80	
Argentina 70/82	102.00	7.35	5.58	7.04	1. 10.84	6% Euro. Inv. Bank 77/88	105.25	6.25	5.45	6.50	1. 12.78 - 88D	6% Euro. Inv. Bank 77/88	106.50	6.25	5.45	6.50	1. 12.78 - 88D	98.00	8.04	1.25	5.66	1. 8.80	
Argentine 78/85	97.00	6.50	7.00	7.11	1. 3.85	7% Euro. Inv. Bank 78/91P	104.50	6.55	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	7% Euro. Inv. Bank 78/91P	105.25	6.55	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 78/91P	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Asian Dev. Blk. 76/82P	100.50	1.98	2.50	7.00	1. 9.75 - 84S	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	94.00	6.30	11.98	6.91	1. 1.91P	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.75	6.72	6.32	6.75	1. 2.77 - 86D	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Asian Dev. Blk. 77/85	103.00	8.28	6.55	7.02	1. 11.63	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.75	7.79	1.75	6.28	1. 12.80	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.25	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Asian Dev. Blk. 78/85	103.10	7.75	6.00	6.82	1. 3.82	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.75	7.79	1.75	6.28	1. 12.80	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.25	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Asian Dev. Blk. 79/85	101.75	7.75	6.00	6.82	1. 3.82	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.75	7.79	1.75	6.28	1. 12.80	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.25	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Asian Dev. Blk. 79/88	101.75	7.75	6.00	6.82	1. 3.82	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.75	7.79	1.75	6.28	1. 12.80	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.25	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
ASKO 75/80	88.50	6.15	9.17	7.09	1. 5.88	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.75	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.25	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Aumar 76/84	101.90	6.22	1.08	8.82	1. 4.80	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.75	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.25	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Aumar 77/84	101.90	6.22	1.08	8.82	1. 4.80	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.75	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.25	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Aumar 78/84	101.90	6.22	1.08	8.82	1. 4.80	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.75	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.25	6.54	5.84	6.46	1. 8.88 - 88S	97% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	95.75	6.75	6.27	11.42	6.53
Aumar 79/84	101.90	6.22	1.08	8.82	1. 4.80	8% Euro. Inv. Bank 79/91	106.7																

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	To	From	Rate
Arab Int'l Bank C.I.C.	1983 1 Feb 79	1 Aug 79	11.7%
Jugobanka S.N.C.F.	1983 1 Feb 79	1 Aug 79	11.9%
C.C.C.E.	1983 2 Feb 79	2 Aug 79	11.7%
Hapoalim Int'l	1983 5 Feb 79	6 Aug 79	11.7%
Cred. Lyonnais	1982 8 Feb 79	8 Aug 79	11.7%
Eq. Ext d'Algérie	1984 9 Feb 79	9 Aug 79	11.7%
Cdt. Lyonnais (6% min.)	1983 13 Feb 79	13 Aug 79	11.7%
Standard Chartered	1980 13 Feb 79	13 Aug 79	11.7%
Bco do Brasil	1982 15 Feb 79	16 Aug 79	11.7%
ESCOM	1982 15 Feb 79	15 Aug 79	12.1%
I.B.J. (6% min.)	1982 15 Feb 79	15 Aug 79	11.7%
L.T.C.B.	1983 15 Feb 79	15 Aug 79	11.7%
B.U.E.	1981 20 Feb 79	20 Aug 79	11.7%
E.N.P.	1984 21 Feb 79	21 Aug 79	11.7%
Midland Bank	1983 21 Feb 79	21 Aug 79	11.7%
B.N.P.	1981 22 Feb 79	22 Aug 79	11.7%
Alahli Bank	1983 23 Feb 79	23 Aug 79	11.7%
B.F.C.E.	1984 23 Feb 79	23 Aug 79	11.7%
Williams & Glyn's	1984 26 Feb 79	26 Aug 79	11.7%
Panama	1990 28 Feb 79	28 Aug 79	12.1%

Interest rates applicable to the issues listed below will be announced during March.

B.N.P.	1983
Hapoalim Int'l	1982
Bq. Louis-Dreyfus	1983
Leumi Int'l	1981
Leumi Int'l	1984
Nippon Credit Bank	1983
Sumitomo Heavy Industries	1983
B.N.P.	1981
Enpetrol	1986
U.B.A.F. (6% min.)	1982
Allied Irish Banks	1984
General Cable	1980

## Bankers Trust International Limited

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\* Life \*\* Maturity \* denotes years and decimals of years and are—in this context—calculated as equivalent to the final maturity in case of a lumpsum repayment  
—final maturity in case of a sinking fund issue, whenever the quoted price is below 100  
—life in case of a sinking fund issue, whenever the quoted price is above 100  
to average life in case the bond issuer provides for mandatory drawings by lot  
at par only  
P DM 1,000-of public issues  
G Government Guarantee

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215 Credit Lyonnais
218 E. F. Hutton Services S.A.R.L.
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611 Centrale Rabobank Utrecht
612 Bank Van Der Hoop Offers N.V.
605 Bank Morgan Labouchere N.V.
610 F. van Lanschot
606 Nederlandse Middenstandsbank N.V.
607 Nederlandse Credietbank N.V.
608 Pierson, Heldring & Pierson
609 Slavenburg, Oyens & Van Eggen N.V.

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755 Bergen Bank
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750 Den Danske Bank of 1871 Aktieselskab
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HONDA \$221<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

ITO YOKADO \$74<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

JUSCO \$48<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

KOMATSU FORKLIFT \$3.50

KUBOTA \$27<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

MAKITA \$29<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

MURATA \$4.88

NIPPON MEAT PACKERS \$2.83

PIONEER \$21<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

RENOWN \$3

SONY \$8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

TAISHO MARINE \$11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

TDK \$8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

TOKYO SANYO \$1.83

TRIO \$27

WACOAL \$22<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

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Selected Austrian Schilling Bonds of Austrian issuers maturity up to 5 years	Last Price	Yield to average life	Current Yield	Redemption (mandatory drawings by lot)
8 % Österreich 1973/B/81	102,-	7.16	7.84	15. 2.77-81 at 101,0
8 1/2 % Österreich 1974/I/B/82	102,-	7.39	8.33	22.10.75-82 at 100,0
8 1/2 % Österreich 1975/S/83	103,25	7.39	8.23	5. 3.76-83 at 100,0 to 101,0
8 1/2 % Innsbruck 1974/B/82	102,75	7.27	8.27	19.11.75-82 at 100,5
8 1/2 % Steyr-Daimler-Puch 1974/B/81	102,-	7.40	8.33	29.10.75-81 at 100,5

Selected US-\$ Bonds of Austrian issuers	6 % Rep. of Austria 64/84
5 3/4% Alpine Montan 65/85	6 3/4% Rep. of Austria 67/82
6 5/8% Austrian Electricity 66/86	8 3/4% Rep. of Austria 76/90
6	

# Budget hints for Mr. Healey

By PETER RIDDELL, Economics Correspondent

DENIS HEALEY will on 3 make his sixth spring budget statement—and his final if the bookies' election odds anywhere near right. And it'll be one of the shortest, by his standards of relative size.

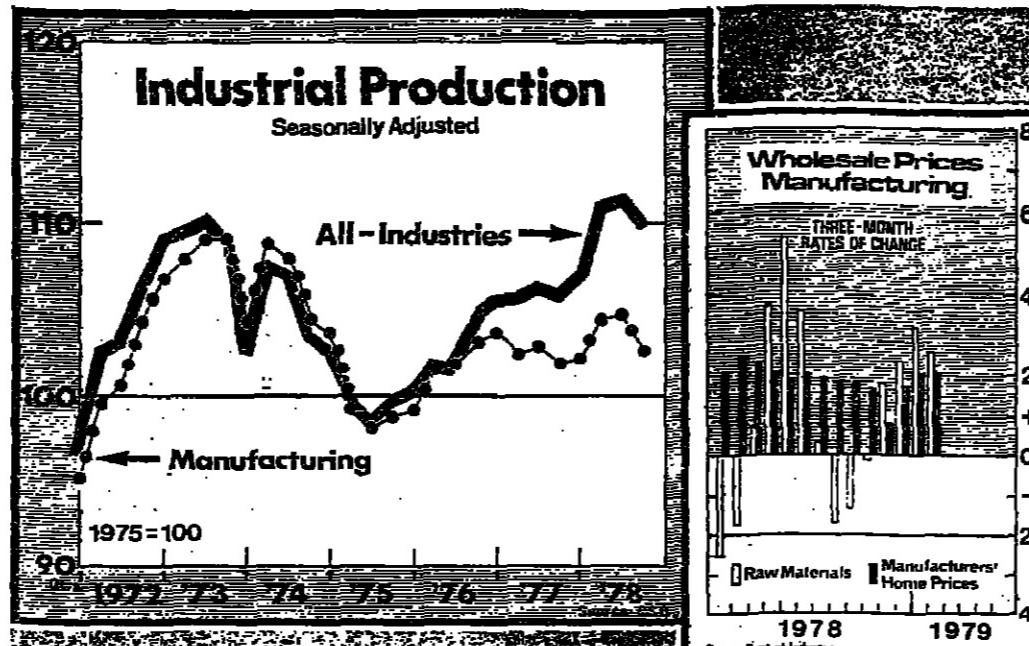
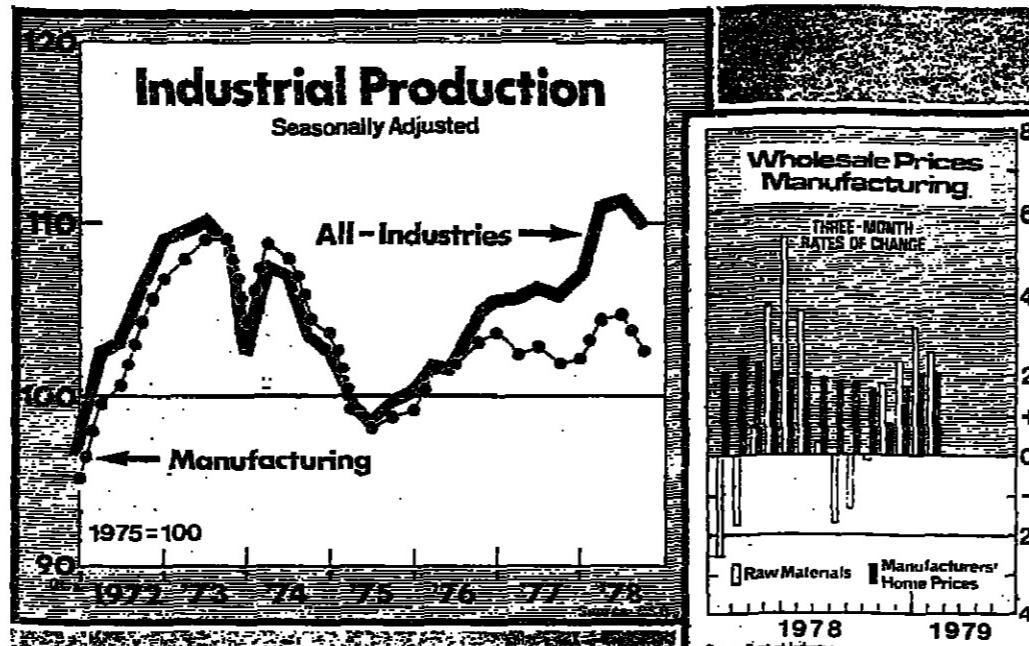
It not only reflects his lack of interest—even disdain—for reforms of the tax structure (shared by many Tories), is also because the main lines of the Budget strategy already clear. There is still, usual considerable uncertainty about the exact Budget arithmetic—and the specific measures to be taken. But Mr. Healey's options for doing anything elaborate or controversial limited—not only by monetary and electoral constraints but also by clear commitments on monetary and money policy. Some kind of unlikely surprise measure can be ruled out entirely however.

## Standards

Some of these constraints have deterred the many organisations whose Budget submissions are now piling up at the Treasury. Yet for all the differences in specific recommendations most of the main bodies more or less agreed about short-term economic prospects.

The performance last year was too bad, at any rate by the standards of the previous five years. The 12-month rate of inflation came back down to single figures—touching a rate of 7.4 per cent in the summer. This, coupled with tax cuts, sustained a sharp rise in living standards, a vast level of consumer spending, and a 3 per cent rise in total output. And unemployment fell by more than 100,000 in the year.

But that is an unlikely option, to say the least, as is reluctantly accepted even by a body like the national institute which favours Government action to influence the level of demand and is distrustful of emphasis



on controlling the money supply. Its review said that inflationary uncertainties argued that "an apparent association of the breakdown of the pay policy with inflationary action is simply not convincing as an economic strategy."

The Institute, however, rejected "a positively deflationary Budget given the likely increase in unemployment and evidence that a further rise induced by fiscal action would have no discernible effect on the level of pay settlements." Hence the Budget should be neutral.

A roughly similar view is taken by the CBI which says Mr. Healey has no scope to introduce expansionary measures. Indeed there may be a case for contractionary measures if pay developments worsen. The CBI has, however, suggested cuts in income tax financed, if possible, by cutting public spending and, if necessary, by higher indirect taxes.

Monetarist economists would go further and the London Business School, for instance, has urged the need for a cut of about £2bn in public sector borrowing in the next financial year in order to secure effective control over the growth of the money supply and a single-figure rate of price inflation.

All these strands of opinion are reflected in the official submissions to Mr. Healey from within the Treasury. There is still a strong official strain of non-monetarist advice which now, however, concedes the influence of the financial markets.

But inflation provides the key to Mr. Healey's decisions since the Government has effectively abandoned any pretence of aiming for economic growth or employment objectives. Containing inflation is seen as the only way of creating the right conditions for growth. So with the breakdown of pay policy—first in the private sector last year and since in the public sector

the emphasis is now overtly on monetary control and public sector borrowing.

Adherence to a money supply target is not some kind of sadistic punishment to discipline people if pay policy breaks down. Instead it represents an attempt to contain the consequences of such inflationary pressures. Thus a fairly tight monetary policy—as at present in Britain—will mainly operate in the private sector by supporting the exchange rate which in turn will both directly contain price rises and affect the ability of exporters to pass on cost increases.

Indeed at present pay settlements in the private sector appear to be no higher, and possibly less on average, than last year. That is why the fears of a return to the runaway inflation of 1974-5 are misplaced.

In the public sector the key influence on monetary control is the borrowing requirement. Last November the Treasury forecast a figure of £8.5bn for the 1979-80 financial year and this was turned into a firm ceiling during January when the markets were looking for a demonstration of the Government's commitment to fight inflation.

There is plenty of room for argument about the appropriateness of this particular figure. Some economists would argue for a target as percentage of Gross Domestic Product, rather than a cash figure. But £8.5bn, which some monetarists would regard as too high, has now become a symbol for the City of the Government's resolve to stick to its monetary guidelines.

These figures are not nearly as exact in their implications as they might appear. What matters almost as much as the targets are the starting assumptions—and inflation makes all the calculations uncertain. Mr. Healey told the Commons at the end of January that the hypothetical assumption of a 15 per cent earnings rise in the current round, against the 7 per cent official guidelines, would add nearly £1.5bn onto the previous £8.5bn borrowing estimate.

This suggests that the Budget is likely to be regarded as essentially an interim statement.

This is partly because there will be a suspicion that the figures do not take sufficient—or at any rate realistic—account of the various comparability studies now under way in the public sector, whose bills will fall from the summer onwards.

And, of course, a Tory victory at the election would be followed by at least a major economic statement.

In many respects the Budget is of much less significance than the general commitments to monetary control, coupled with the impact of North Sea oil production, and the consequent strong exchange rate. This has in effect cushioned the impact of a continuing high level of inflation and a low level of productivity growth, with a decline in competitiveness, a deteriorating non-oil trade account is offset by an improving oil balance.

The London Business School recently forecast the combination of an 11 per cent inflation rate, a 21 per cent rise in consumer spending and a current account surplus each year till 1982. That might sound fine, and it could be a lot worse.

But North Sea oil is not a permanent blessing and the policy changes needed to take advantage of this opportunity, rather than to dissipate it, are much more radical than we are likely to see from Mr. Healey in three weeks' time.

## Letters to the Editor

### British farm prices

Mr. the Managing Director, Farming

—The comment by Stephen Parkes—headed British farmers win 5 per cent more—(March 8) could be taken to mean guarantee of 5 per cent devaluation of Green £; however, he negates excuse by writing again emerged from this Council of Ministers meeting in Brussels with a stated 5 per cent increase for farmers... How sadly

5 per cent devaluation will vary effects on British farmers' prices, averaging out the industry as a whole at 2.5 per cent benefit. Not exciting.

I wonder how many of your readers would invest in a large family, say with an output of 100, who produced an annual profit with these comments on changes? ... After a 5% per cent in 1977, a forecast to rise by 5% in 1978; for costs, including labour, a rise of 14% in 1977 is expected to follow by one of 7 per cent 1978. I refer, of course, to White Paper entitled Annual Review of Agriculture as presented to Parliament by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in January.

It may be pertinent to remind readers that the farm gate prices of the majority of products are completely and only influenced by Government action. No one really believes that farm costs rose by 7 per cent in 1978; indeed more accurate assessment is 5 per cent.

British agricultural industry is starved of profits—vital not only increasing productivity but even for survival. Tragic situation will probably continue until we have minister who is not a cold anti-Marketeer dedicated to the withdrawal of Britain from the EEC; this latter ambition easily achieved by the break-up of the mon Agricultural Policy.

Its deliberate policy towards culture is symptomatic of present attitude of Government where commonsense is forced to short-term party expedient.

Tony Rosen,  
Hatches,  
Amesbury,  
Wiltshire.

Vas growth checked?

Mr. the Director of the Institute of Economic Social Research

—In your leading article March 7 you say that: "Last fiscal policy was so positive" that growth was checked.

Is growth checked? Because rebasing of the national accounts, it is not easy to compare the out-turn with forecasts in 1978 (as compared with 1977) with the contribution of North Sea oil value at 1970 £s is 2.1 per cent. Last year's Financial Statement forecast was for 2.0 per cent and was 2.5 per cent in May, the Budget. So for us,

but not for the Treasury, growth was a little less than expected, although the difference of a half per cent is well within the margin of error of the estimated GDP outturn.

Was fiscal policy so "expansive"? As you yourself argued in a leading article on June 30, 1977 the proper yardstick is a cyclically corrected, or high employment budget balance. I remember the occasion because, having been type-cast for so long as an intellectual slow-coach, I was in a position to write a letter praising you for catching up with National Institute practice. There are many ways of estimating a high employment budget: we prefer a weighted balance and believe that changes in the balance are better measures of fiscal stance than levels. Our estimate is that the 1978 budget implied an easing of the stance of fiscal policy of 0.4 per cent of high employment GDP, following three years in which the stance of fiscal policy had been tightened by altogether 4.4 per cent of GDP. Our provisional estimate of the out-turn in 1978 is that the change in the weighted budget will turn out to be even smaller—0.2 per cent. The tax cuts alone may have added between three-quarters and 1 per cent to GDP, but this was virtually wiped out when account is taken of the public expenditure side.

In short on our figuring growth was very roughly as expected. Fiscal policy was planned to be mildly expansionary and in the event produced a very small stimulus. The volume of exports grew less than we had anticipated, which we attribute in part to relatively high inflation with a stable exchange rate. Although slightly less than we had anticipated, private investment was still buoyant. Apart from private dwellings, where building societies are something of a special case, we were not aware that investment was being held back by either lack of credit or the cost of credit. The latest CBI Survey, taken at the end of 1978, shows that less than 1 per cent of firms complained of any inability to raise external finance for investment, and only 1 per cent considered themselves inhibited from investing by the cost of credit. So much for crowding-out during 1978.

G. D. N. Worswick  
NIESR,  
2, Dean Trench Street,  
Smith Square, SW1.

Not wanted at Maplin...

From Mr. L. Filleul

Capital

From the Chairman, Defenders of Essex

Sir,—I agree with Mr. F. M. Redington (March 7) on the confusion caused by using the word "investment" in two quite different senses. I also agree that the word should retain its generally understood meaning as "net acquisition of financial assets." For "investment" in real capital goods, what is wrong with the well understood expression "capital expenditure"?

L. T. L. S. Filleul,  
9, Southwicks,  
Yeovil, Somerset.

Invest and prudently

From Mr. J. Gibb,

Sir,—I think Mr. Redington,

No better step could be taken than to go back to the Roskill Commission, for that inquiry explored, honestly and exhaustively, the problems which still confront us. Certainly, there would be no hope of a workable solution to the problem if anything remotely resembling the current half-baked plans of Greater London Council for a Maplin Airport "on the cheap" were even considered.

Has not enough research taken place and expense been incurred to show that wherever and whenever a site is chosen for London's third airport it should not be Stansted?

J. M. Lukies,  
Cammas Hall,  
Hawfield Broad Oak,  
Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

## GENERAL

UK: Gas industry pay talks resume.

Steel manual workers pay talks resume.

Scottish National Union of Mineworkers meet in Edinburgh to discuss pay offer.

Dairy Trade Federation statement on EEC milk price proposals.

Sir Robert Mark launches Help the Homeless appeal.

Overseas: European Council meets in Paris for two days.

European Parliament starts five-day meeting in Strasbourg.

European Central Bankers meet in Basle for two days.

International Food Exhibition opens at Olympia (until March 18).

Joint meeting and trade exhibition accounts.

Witnesses: Dept. of Transport, Room 16, 5.45 pm.

Expenditure, Education, Arts and Home Office Sub-committee.

Subject: Women and penal system.

Witnesses: Association of Chief Police Officers, Police Federation, Room 13, 4.15 pm.

COMPANY RESULTS

Final dividends: Dixons, Pentos.

Rolls-Royce Motors.

Interior dividends:

British Railways (Selby) Bill, second reading.

National Heritage Fund Bill, report.

Hovercraft (Civil Liability) Order.

European Communities—Definition of Treaties Order.

Select Committee: Public Accounts.

Subject: Appropriation

Parliamentary BUSINESS

House of Commons: Second

Readings of Local Government

Grants (Ethnic Groups) Bill and

Bill of Local Government Finance.

House of Lords: British Railways (Selby) Bill, second reading.

British Car Auction Group.

Parker Timber Group, Stobart and Pitt.

Interior figures: Glendevon Investment Trust, Nelson David.

COMPANY MEETINGS

See Financial Diary on page 7.

## Today's Events

FEBRUARY provisional retail sales figures.

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS

House of Commons: Second

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COMPANY MEETINGS

Department of Trade publishes

OFFICIAL STATISTICS

Department of Trade publishes

February provisional retail sales figures.

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS

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Readings of Local Government

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Bill of Local Government Finance.

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Railways (Selby) Bill, second

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Interior figures: Glendevon Investment Trust, Nelson David.

COMPANY MEETINGS

See Financial Diary on page 7.

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## Gilgate meeting on April 27—accounts almost complete

Gilgate Holdings, the controversial industrial property group which is the subject of a Department of Trade investigation has reconvened its extraordinary general meeting.

The meeting was adjourned on December 15 until March 30 at the latest. That meeting was considering important transactions since the last published accounts, which were for the year ending June 1976.

It was adjourned so that up-to-date information could be prepared.

Gilgate said yesterday that accounts for the financial year ending June 30, 1977, "are almost complete" and will be dispatched in time for the annual general meeting which will be convened for April 27.

The group is proposing that the EGM on March 30 should be adjourned further until April 27 so that the business of the AGM and EGM can be dealt with at the same time.

Gilgate's last accounts for 1975-76 were finally published in late November. They received a four-page auditors' report containing eight significant qualifications. In particular, Deloitte Haskins and Sells, the auditors, who did not seek re-election, said that the company had not kept proper accounting records of transactions during the year.

### Fife Forge falls in second half

A second half fall from £206,149 to £190,345 left taxable profits of Fife Forge, forge master and engineer, behind at £321,545 for the 1976 year against a previous £401,598. Turnover was, however, well up from £3.82m to £7.28m.

The directors state that the reduction in profit has been caused by the severe recession in the world wide shipbuilding industry and by unexpected order cancellations.

Other companies in the group, despite difficult trading conditions, have contributed satisfactorily to profit, they add.

A final dividend of 1.694p (1.479p) net per 25p share lifts the total to 2.494p for the year compared with 2.234p.

The attributable Dividends came out at £178,374 (£230,501) after tax £55,177 (£71,097) and an extraordinary debit of £57,994.

CORAL INDEX: Close 511-516

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Floating Rate Notes 1986

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### BOARD MEETINGS

The following companies have notified the Board of Meetings to the Stock Exchange. Such meetings are usually held for the purpose of considering dividends. Official indications are not available as to whether dividends are forthcoming. Details and the date of the meeting below are based mainly on last year's timetable.

**TODAY**  
Interims—British Car Auction, Nelson David, Peter Timms, Renown Tin Dresser, Sherwin and Pitt, Finalists-Dixit, Pentos, Rolls-Royce Motors.

**FUTURE DATES**

Armstrong Equipment	Mar. 21
Farview Estates	Mar. 20
Finance and Investments	Mar. 19
General Motor Cars	Mar. 19
London and Stratford Trust Mar. 14	
Medinstar	Apr. 6
Finalists	
BICC	Mar. 29
Bassett Clark	Mar. 14
Bermose	Mar. 20
Boddington Breweries	Mar. 15
Brown and Williamson	Apr. 11
Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance	Mar. 18
Hall Engineering	Mar. 18
Hornbeam Newspapers	Mar. 18
Imperial Distillers	Mar. 14
Jones (A. A.) and Shipton	Mar. 14
Mersey Docks and Harbour	Apr. 2
Neway	Mar. 15
P.B.W.S.	Mar. 19
Willis Faber	Mar. 20

### Strike takes toll of Sidlaw

Sir John Carmichael, chairman of Sidlaw Industries, warned members at the AGM that prospects for the first half of the current year were not good.

Problems created by the road haulage strike had seriously affected the group's three divisions in January and early February, with the textile division suffering most. In that period, losses substantially reduced profits made in the first three months.

Some recovery was now evident, but the group's textile markets had not yet re-established earlier levels of demand, and production remained curtailed in some sections.

Mr.

FT Share Information

The following security has been added to the Share Information Service appearing in the Financial Times:

### INSURANCE BASE RATES

\*Property Growth ..... 13%

\*Vanbrugh Guaranteed ..... 10½%

\*Address shown under Insurance and Property Bond Table.

Activities of the group include paint making, hardware manufacturing and operation of D-I-Y stores. Meeting Winchester House, EC, April 4 at noon.

### PERCY LANE

Percy Lane Group has formed a new subsidiary called Percy

Lane (Home Improvements).

The new company will carry on the business of the supply and installation of replacement domestic aluminium windows, double glazing, patio doors and solar energy systems designed and manufactured by group companies.

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## INTNL. COMPANIES and FINANCE PENDING DIVIDENDS RECENT ISSUES

## Orient Leasing stake in United Overseas Land

H. F. LEE IN SINGAPORE

IT LEASING Company of Japan is to acquire a group, said that the price was arrived at based on the net asset backing after the revaluation of the group's properties in August 1978, and the prevailing market price of its shares which closed at \$81.50 per share last Friday.

Commenting on the move, which will raise some \$820.25m cash for the group, UOL said that this reflects the confidence of OLC not only in UOL but also in the generally improved outlook for the property sector in Singapore.

The issue of the new shares is subject to approval of UOL shareholders, and when it is approved, two representatives of OLC will be invited to join

the Board.

OLC is also the largest single shareholder of United States Leasing International.

Apart from the obvious financial advantages, the tie-up will enable UOL to provide leasing packages and tap potential Japanese buyers more effectively.

Also, OLC through one of its subsidiaries, Orient Leasing Interior Company, provides a unique combination of lease financing for furniture, equipment and interior furnishing of shops, offices, houses and condominiums, together with a full range of design and decoration services.

## Credit Suisse unit in U.S. deal

V YORK —

Amsterdam Bank NV (Amro), Suisse, Societe Generale de Brussels and of Brussels have reached agreement in principle to merge their U.S. retail banking affiliate, Swiss International Corporation, with Swiss American Securities.

Mr. George J. Helwig, of

Suisse, will become the chief executive and custodian of Credit Suisse's U.S. holding company Swiss American Corporation.

The combined entity will continue to be engaged in the securities clearance and custodian business. Credit Suisse, largest shareholder of Suisse, will retain his position as chairman of Swiss American Corporation.

It is anticipated that the merger, which is subject to customary corporate and regulatory approval, will be consummated during April 1979.

AP-DJ

annheimer irks its niversary

JNEIDEN — Mannheimer IerungsGesellschaft is to its share capital by 45m to DM20m (\$10.8m) ering shareholders new at preferential prices to the insurance company's anniversary.

Mannheimer said that stock

would be offered one

share for every six shares

One-new share of DM50 value will be priced at

Mannheimer currently

at around DM420 per on the Frankfurt stock

ge. AP-DJ

## Ballast-Nedam result in line with forecast

BY CHARLES BACHELOR IN AMSTERDAM

BALLAST-NEDAM, the first major Dutch construction group to report its 1978 results, said that net profit rose by 37 per cent on a 50 per cent rise in turnover. It proposes raising its dividend proposal to Fl. 5.40 per Fl 20 nominal share from Fl. 4.80 in 1977.

The company's performance is very much in line with the forecast made in October although turnover has risen more quickly than the 42 per cent increase then expected. Provisional 1978

profit was Fl. 24.1m (\$12m) compared with Fl. 17.6m while turnover was Fl. 1.8bn (\$900m) against Fl. 1.2bn.

Profit per share rose to Fl. 15.80 from Fl. 13.80 after the placement of 250,000 new shares in January 1978. Orders in hand fell, however, to Fl. 4.6bn from Fl. 5.5bn at the end of 1977.

Investment rose to Fl. 110m from Fl. 71.8m. Cash flow was 60.5m compared with Fl. 47.6m or Fl. 39.70 per share against Fl. 37.35.

## CURRENCIES, MONEY and GOLD

## Foreword moves in Europe

COLIN MILLHAM

pean central banks would known that the currencies of the European System have been steadily without any help from them over months. To some extent this is true. The existingers of the European currency snake, which will form the new system, traded fairly comfortably within their agreed limits since the mark was revalued last year, but can one be sure new members, such as French franc and Italian

YRCENCY RATES

	Bank Special	European	U.S. Dollars	Other Currencies
	Special	Special	Special	Special
1	1.631995	0.654492	1.631995	1.631995
2	1.523114	0.608278	1.523114	1.523114
3	17.478282	1.164112	17.478282	1.164112
4	37.658282	5.979894	37.658282	5.979894
5	8.707452	0.591078	8.707452	0.591078
6	1.5701852	1.2101852	1.5701852	1.2101852
7	5.918505	2.732820	5.918505	2.732820
8	5.75158	2.579724	5.75158	2.579724
9	10.08245	1.147000	10.08245	1.147000
10	8.55456	1.147000	8.55456	1.147000
11	7.55499	0.655450	7.55499	0.655450
12	8.89703	0.637474	8.89703	0.637474
13	5.82208	0.591587	5.82208	0.591587
14	2.15202	2.26200	2.15202	2.26200

## THE DOLLAR: SPOT AND FORWARD

## INSURANCE

## APPOINTMENTS

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

## A new way to right conveyancing slips

BY OUR INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

**I**N BRITAIN when you buy a house you go to a solicitor. He investigates the vendor's title to the property, inquires into such matters as covenants, discovers whether there are financial development plans and so on; and if ultimately he is satisfied, he completes the legal formalities of having the property conveyed to you.

Solicitors and their staffs are but human and it is but human to make mistakes. In the earlier years of the Law Society's professional indemnity scheme, claims for conveyancing errors numbered about 40 per cent of the total of claims notified.

Whether or not this percentage has varied much since conveyancing errors are numerous and costly, particularly for the purchaser who finds that he has to leave his home, or say, face a motorway being driven across his back garden.

CTI-Dominion Title Insurance Company, a subsidiary of the Chicago Title Insurance Company, which specialises in title insurance in the U.S., has been established here since May 1973.

It believes that it is better for the house-purchaser to have a title insurance of the kind widely sold in the U.S. where, of course, different house-purchase conveyancing rules apply.

It also believes that it is better to have to rely on making a professional negligence claim against the solicitor if the purchaser thinks that that solicitor has failed to do his job.

CTI-Dominion is therefore offering its "House-ownership guarantee," which it hopes to sell to house-buyers—through the agency of solicitors engaged in conveyancing.

In principle, in order to make a successful claim against insurers, the house-purchaser guarantee-holder will only have to show that he has suffered loss because his title is not as stated.

He will not have to prove that this is due to someone's negligence.

The conveyancing solicitor who has done the work and has sold the cover is also protected, as will be the Law Society's professional negligence insurers, because the company will waive its right to recover from the solicitor unless he has intentionally breached his underlying agreement with the company.

Conveyancing is a complicated legal matter but some simple

admittedly necessarily oversimplified—illustrations can be provided of the way the guarantee will work.

Disputes over incidents of title can take a long time to resolve and indeed may not be resolved to the house-purchasers' satisfaction, particularly where someone other than the conveyancing solicitor or his staff has erred.

In this kind of case the purchaser will get compensation from insurers, and they in turn will have the right if they wish to litigate against any third party.

Where there is a dispute over basic title rather than some incident of ownership, insurers will arrange for the dispute to be contested in the courts, provided they think the case worth fighting.

But the guarantee of course cannot prevent the unlucky house-buyer from having to give up his home if the legal cards fall that way, in which event he will get compensation on dispossession.

When it comes to re-sale, if the then would-be purchaser considers the title inadequate he will be entitled to compensation by insurers for the expense of putting his title right, or for compensation if the allegation of defect is sustained.

In launching this kind of cover insurers are at pains to make it clear that solicitors must not regard provision of the house-owner's guarantee as a substitute for careful conveyancing, and they emphasise that they will not authorise solicitors to issue cover in lieu of full proper title investigation.

Of course there is a price to pay. Insurers will require a single premium charged at a rate per £1,000 on the full valuation of the property. This will usually be £1 a thousand for registered title property and £1.50 a thousand for unregistered property.

Cover is provided for the full purchase price, and will be increased year by year to allow for inflation, having regard to the movement of the housing cost and prices index, up to a maximum of 50 per cent above the original purchase price.

The house-purchaser gets cover until he sells the property, and if he dies his estate enjoys protection until sale.

## Special adviser to EEC president

**R**ICHARD MAYNE, for the past six years head of the EEC COMMISSION'S offices in the UK, has been appointed special adviser to the President of the Commission from June. His first assignment will be to examine and make recommendations on the public presentation of Commission policies. Dr. Mayne joined the staff of the Community as an official of the ECSC High Authority in Luxembourg in 1956. Mr. James Nutall, ISBA general secretary, has been appointed deputy director from April 1.

The following changes will take place in the partnership of L. MESSEL AND CO. stockbrokers on April 7: Mr. W. J. B. Girardet will relinquish the position of senior partner but will remain a partner in the firm. He is aged 66; Mr. J. D. Lloyd will become senior partner; Mr. M. E. Stern will retire from the partnership and will become an associate member. Subject to formal Stock Exchange approval, Mr. M. B. Del Mar, Mr. P. L. Jones and Mr. R. W. Yates will join the partnership from this date.

**M**r. John R. Henderson has joined the board of WHITBREAD INVESTMENT COMPANY.

**T**HE T. J. Procter has been appointed a director and Mr. S. Balas has been appointed secretary of DELTENNE HOLDINGS. Mr. P. M. Cranfield, having moved from both positions to take up an appointment elsewhere.

**R**ichard Alston, an associate director of INBUCON management consultants, has been made director of management development and training services, a new appointment.

**J**ohn Burgess has joined ITCI as marketing and sales director of the division dealing with food processors. He was previously marketing director of Sunbeam Electric. ITCI is UK agent for the majority and the Robot-Coupe, made in France by Robot-Coupe.

**M**r. Michael Aftergatt, previously with Tarmac International, has joined N. M. Rothschild & Sons and will be appointed a director of N. M. ROTHSCHILD AND SONS (INTERNATIONAL). He will be responsible for the development of projects and capital goods schemes in South-East Asia.

**J**im Cookson is to resign as director of JAMES MILLER AND PARTNERS and LEAKE AND CARNEY in the early summer, when he will take up a fresh appointment in the property field.

**D**avid M. Garner has resigned from the Board of BRITISH BENZOL CARBONISING due to heavy business commitments.

**K**enneth Miles, has been appointed director of the INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF BRITISH ADVERTISERS (ISBA) in succession to Mr. Gilbert Lamb, from April 30. Mr. Miles is currently head of marketing at the Central Council for Agricul-

ture.

**A**merica's largest advertising agency, Teleglobe, has appointed Mr. David C. Wright as managing director.

**S**tephen H. Wright, chairman of the Central Council for Agriculture, has been appointed chairman of the new Central Council for Marketing.

**C**onveyancing is a complicated legal matter but some simple

cultural and Horticultural Co-operation. From 1968 to 1974 he was general manager, marketing of Wamey Mann, and during the last two years of that appointment was a member of the radio, television and screen advertising committee of the ISBA. Mr. James Nutall, ISBA general secretary, has been appointed deputy director from April 1.

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## Indices

### NEW YORK—DOW JONES

	Mar. 9	Mar. 8	Mar. 7	Mar. 6	Mar. 5	Mar. 4	1978-79 High	1978-79 Low	Stock	Mar. 9	1978-79 High	1978-79 Low	Stock	Mar. 9	1978-79 High	1978-79 Low	Stock	Since Compt'n 1978-79
All Indust'l	842.85	844.35	834.22	822.52	822.35	822.35	807.74	807.74	742.12	822.35	811.12	811.12	811.12	11/1/72	11/1/72	11/1/72	11/1/72	41.22
H'tng B'nds	84.84	84.76	84.75	84.65	84.47	84.65	84.05	84.05	—	84.84	84.72	84.72	84.72	—	—	—	—	—
Transport	214.81	213.82	211.75	203.57	211.04	202.05	202.05	202.05	202.05	202.05	202.05	202.05	202.05	1/1/73	1/1/73	1/1/73	1/1/73	12.25
Utilities ...	101.15	101.04	101.03	101.56	101.49	101.49	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	1/1/73	101.56	101.56	101.56	10.38
Trading vol. 000's	53,500	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000
Day's high 851.44 low 840.00																		

Ind. div. yield % Mar. 2 Feb. 23 Feb. 16 Year ago approx.

Ind. div. yield % Mar. 9 6.04 5.95 5.91 6.23

### STANDARD AND POORS

	Mar. 9	Mar. 8	Mar. 7	Mar. 6	Mar. 5	Mar. 4	1978-79 High	1978-79 Low	Stock	Mar. 9	1978-79 High	1978-79 Low	Stock	Mar. 9	1978-79 High	1978-79 Low	Stock	Since Compt'n 1978-79
All Indust'l	110.88	110.55	105.57	105.81	105.52	105.52	105.52	105.52	105.52	105.52	105.52	105.52	105.52	105.52	105.52	105.52	105.52	4.68
Transport	101.15	101.04	101.03	101.56	101.49	101.49	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	101.56	10.38
Utilities ...	53.50	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00
Trading vol. 000's	53,500	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000
Day's high 851.44 low 840.00																		

Ind. div. yield % Mar. 2 Feb. 23 Feb. 16 Year ago approx.

Ind. div. yield % Mar. 9 5.17 5.26 5.07 5.65

Ind. P/E Ratio 8.93 8.78 8.01 8.46

Long Gov. Bond Yield 9.01 9.06 9.01 8.80

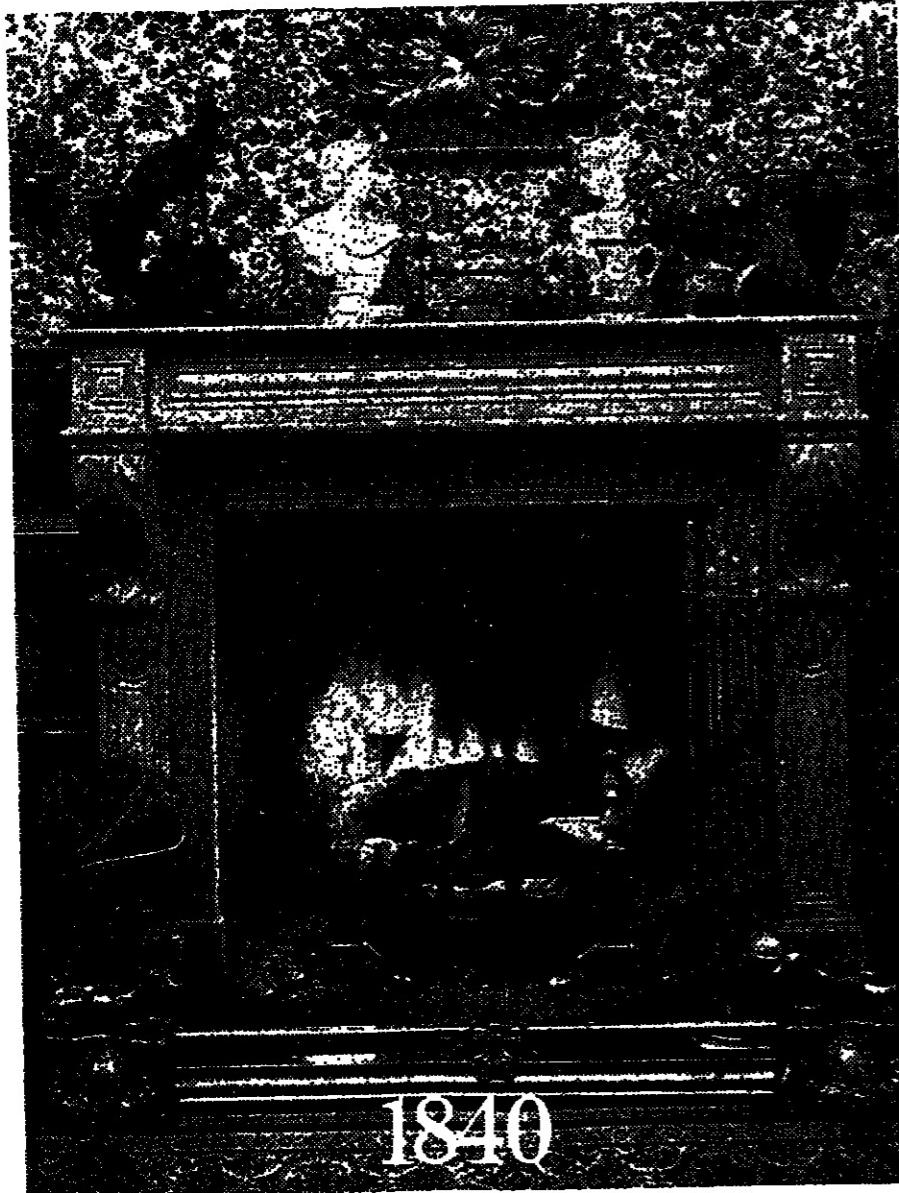
### EUROPE

#### AMSTERDAM

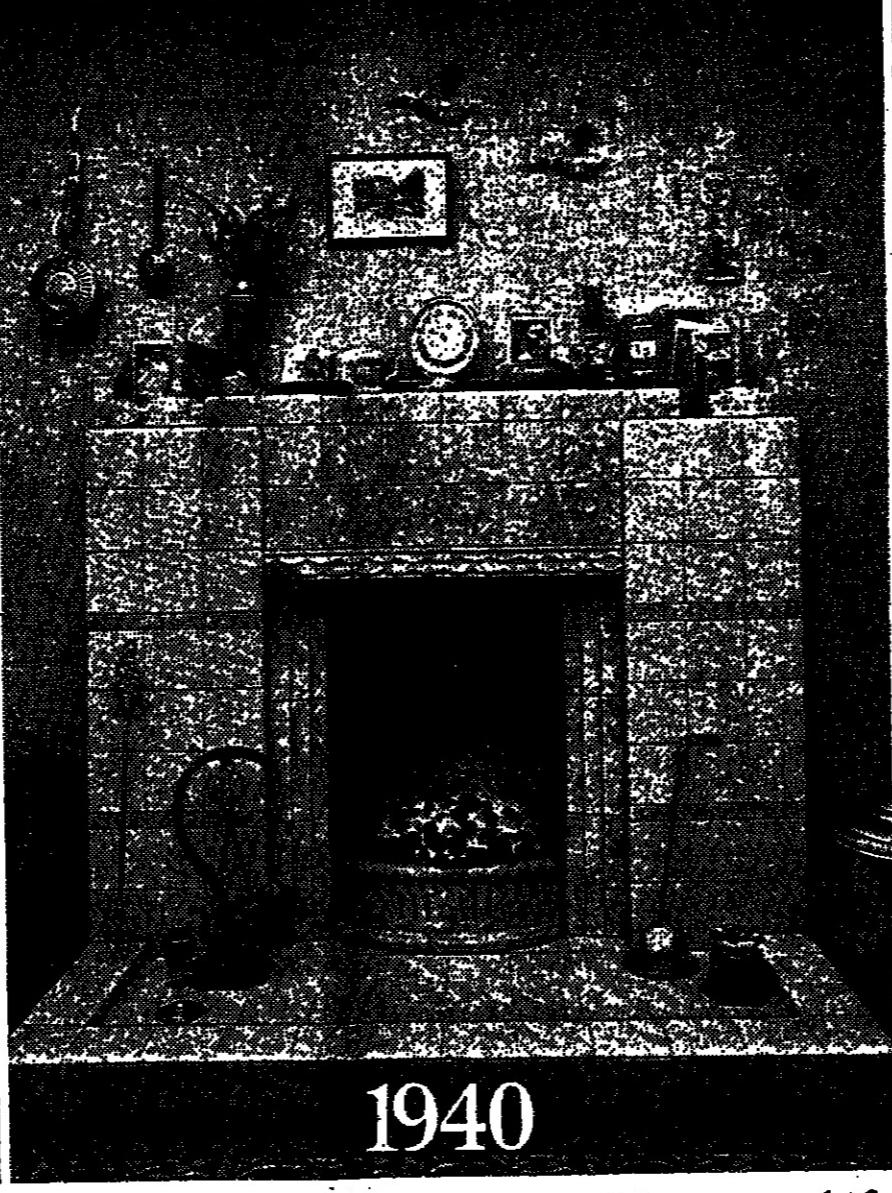
	Mar. 9	Mar. 8	Mar. 7	Mar. 6	Mar. 5	Mar. 4	1978-79 High	1978-79



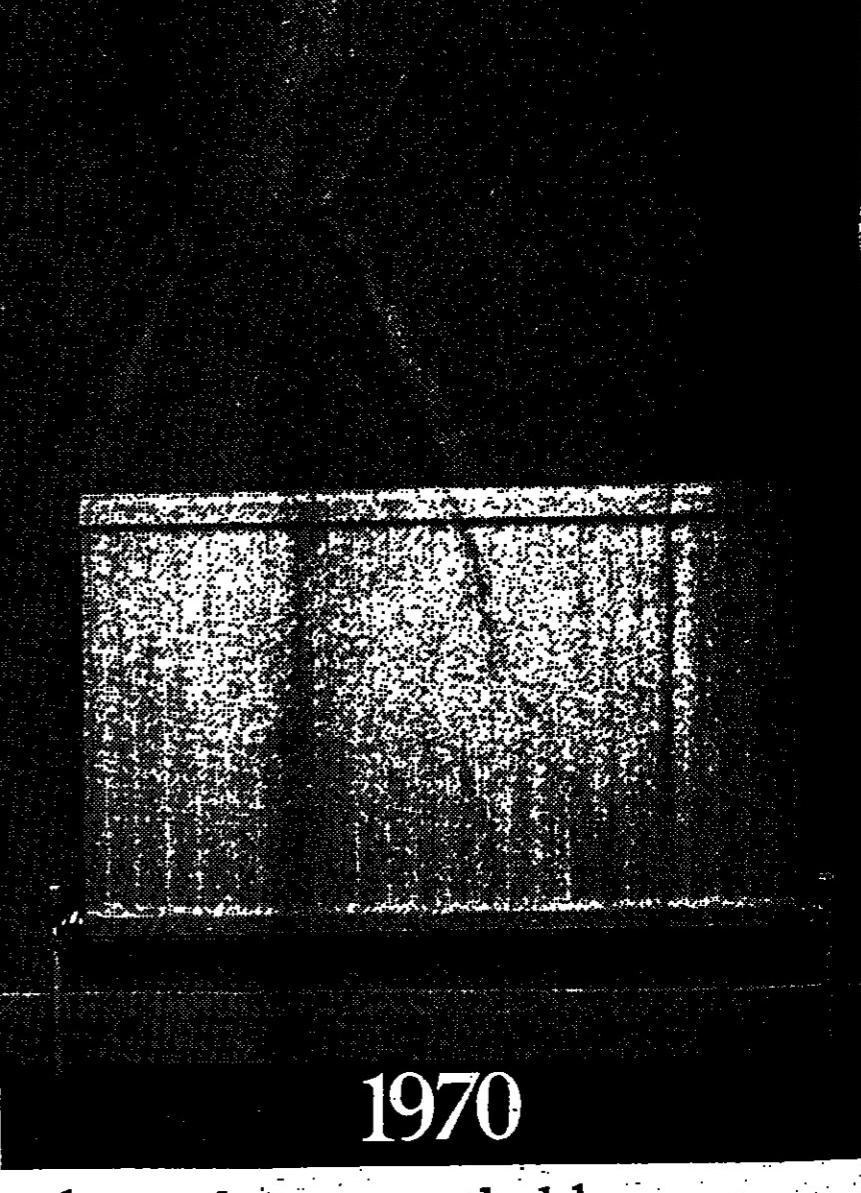
# Is the living-room dying?



1840



1940



1970

Last year, two thirds of all new houses were built without chimneys.

That won't be news if you're an architect or builder. Nor will the fact that leaving out the chimney saves around £200.

It seems to make sense, particularly now so many houses are built with central heating.

But think for a moment what's being lost.

The fire as the heart of a room.

The way things are going, it won't be long before there's only the glow from a TV for a family to sit round.

As gas fire manufacturers, we're obviously concerned.

Where there's a chimney, a gas fire is what most people choose.

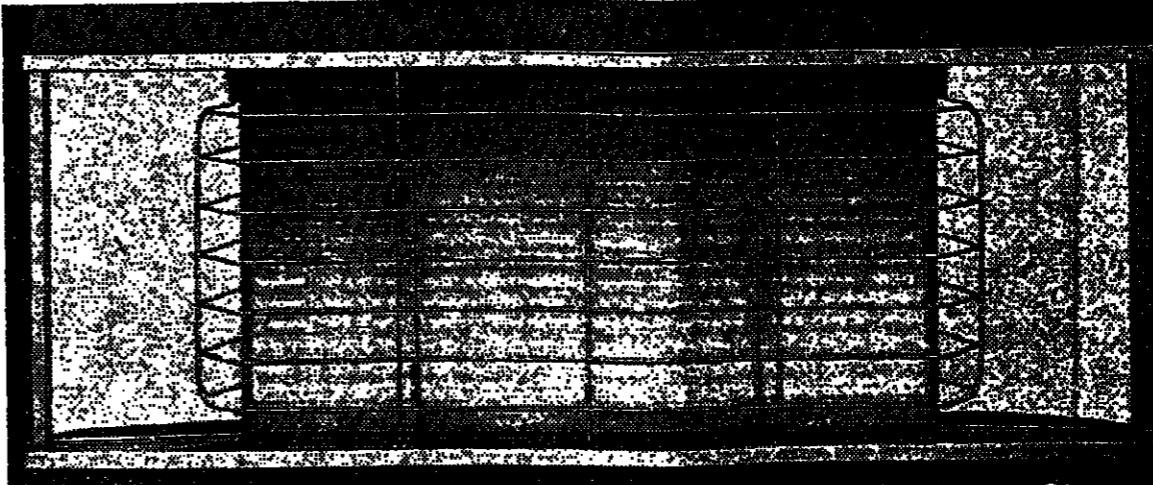
Ten million homes have them. More would, but for the lack of a flue.

If it were left to house buyers, probably most new houses would have a chimney.

The benefit easily outweighs the extra cost, which is only a fraction of the total house price.

All we hope is that you think that counts for something.

Otherwise the living-room may not pull through.



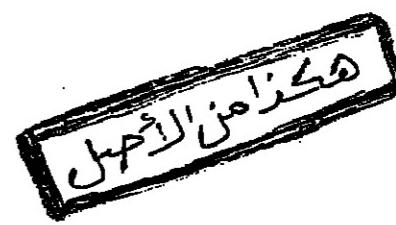
For a glow you need a room with a flue.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE TO: S.B.G.I./ASSOCIATION OF GAS EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS AND CONTRACTORS, 56/58 HOLLY WALK, LEAMINGTON SPA, WARWICKSHIRE CV32 4JE

# FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY

Monday March 12 1979

## West Yorkshire



Though the county has its share of social, industrial and environmental problems, it also has strengths which are helping the area to weather the current recession. However, the pace at which West Yorkshire can progress still further industrially from its 19th century roots will depend on Britain's economic performance as a whole.

### Vantage point or Britain

Rhys David

British Correspondent

ANY analyst anxious to see the first signs as to whether British industry can make the transition to foreign competition in the 1980s better prepared to deal with increasing world competition, the up-and-coming county of West Yorkshire would make a valuable starting point. The county—which includes major centres of Leeds, Bradford and Huddersfield as well as smaller towns such as Dewsbury and Wakefield—is geographically right in the heart of Britain's industrial North. It lies between the twin main ports of Liverpool and London and astride the M6, the motorway which now forms the core of the new industrial tunnel linking east-west across Britain. Eastward, its last major link makes West Yorkshire a vantage point for seeing the switch to ready-to-wear

Britain's industrial prospects, suits and casual clothing—a has been around, or even slightly below, the British trend which Burton in particular failed to observe in time—has resulted in a halving of clothing employment in West Yorkshire.

The future of the mining industry in the county is also difficult to assess. Though coal's importance seems likely to increase still further as a result of oil supply and price uncertainties, the future of the county's collieries will be affected by the development of the great new Selby coalfield in neighbouring North Yorkshire.

The National Coal Board will be looking to the population centres of West and South Yorkshire to man Selby, and this could involve the transfer of men away from some of the more marginal mines in the area.

West Yorkshire also has its share of severe environmental problems. Though considerable clearance work has taken place in the major conurbations, the legacy of the very rapid growth and subsequent decline of the wool textile industry is still to be seen in the many disused or partly-used mills in Bradford, and in the cramped terraced streets which survive in Leeds, Bradford and some of the other important centres in the area.

Social problems go hand-in-hand with these environmental problems. In the inner areas of the major conurbations within West Yorkshire there are the now familiar city centre problems of substandard living conditions, poor public amenities and lack of jobs. There are also pockets of high unemployment in some of the older mining and textile areas within the county, and growing concern over the dereliction problems still being created through industrial waste. Space has to be found each year in West Yorkshire for 7.8m cubic metres of waste—the great bulk of it generated by the National Coal Board and from the burning of power station coal.

### Success

There are other important social and economic problems within West Yorkshire which have tended to be obscured by the area's apparent success in avoiding the high unemployment of other parts of the North. For most of the 1970s West Yorkshire's unemployment total

has been around, or even slightly below, the British average. Pay tends to be low, however, because much of the employment is in textiles and clothing. A report drawn up by the county last year pointed out that West Yorkshire had the highest proportion of low-paid workers, and the longest average working week of all counties in the country, except for a few rural areas.

First, the county's industrial base is impressively large and has been further broadened over recent years. Major chemical and dyestuffs manufacturers in the area—originally by the textile industry

—include ICI Organics Division,

L. B. Holliday, Yorkshire Chemical, Hickson and Welch

and Allied Colloids.

But while these problems are serious, the county does have a number of strengths as well, which have played an important part in helping it to weather the current recession more easily than most of Britain's other major industrial regions.

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and Allied Colloids.

Estate agents in the area Iimos microprocessor manufacturing plant.

Whether or not West Yorkshire is successful with this application—and it faces strong competition from just about every other local authority in the UK—there is a realisation that growth in future will have to come increasingly from within the county itself. And here, apart from having the advantage of a widely diversified industrial base, the county can also point to a long tradition of entrepreneurial activity and self-help. Leeds market, for example, saw in the last century the first Marks and Spencer stall, and the area has also spawned many of the leading names in mail order as well as a number of other prominent retail groups such as Asda and the regionally important Wm. Morrison and Hills.

As part of its policy of trying to stimulate industrial development throughout the area, West Yorkshire is itself to spend £20m over the next 10 years, much of it improving access to industrial land. Much of the spending will be concentrated in economic priority areas identified as most in need of regeneration.

### Attractive

Government money under the inner city partnership scheme is also being made available in Leeds and Bradford and the county is hoping to secure EEC funds for its Scheme for Textile Area Regeneration (STAR). Such a scheme, designed to help make older industrial areas more attractive to potential investors, could be applied elsewhere in the Community if it proves successful in West Yorkshire, the county points out.

There are signs too that investment generally within the area may be picking up. The biggest current scheme is a plan by BL to spend £25m on redevelopment of its aluminium foundries in Leeds, and smaller, but still important, investment schemes are also under way within the county's chemical and engineering sectors.

## West Yorkshire works well.



### ANDREW CALLAWAY

Andrew Callaway is Information Officer at John Waddington Ltd, the world-famous games manufacturers based in Leeds.

Some of their products, such as Monopoly and Cluedo, are household names around the world but Waddingtons are also leading makers of folding cartons, labels, greetings cards, continuous stationery and plastic packaging through



their Plastona subsidiary, who recently launched a revolutionary new drinks container called Plastocan.

Here's what impresses Andrew most about West Yorkshire:

"Our people are our prime asset. We've thought that ever since 1913 when one of our foremen had the idea of diversifying into commercial printing generally rather than concentrating on printing solely for the theatre and music hall. That diversification has continued, and now we've just spent around £1.5 million on a new warehouse for our Plastona goods."

*John Waddington Ltd*

*John Waddington Ltd*

**NORMAN KEMP**  
Norman Kemp is Distribution Manager of Halifax-based Bondina Ltd, a multimillion-pound part of the Freudenberg organisation.

Bondina manufacture non-woven fabrics and were one of the first on the UK textiles scene with this process.

After expanding by 30% in '77/78 and getting well on target for another 17% growth this year, they're just in the process of building a new distribution centre.

And West Yorkshire had the room for

You've heard from seven people living and working in West Yorkshire. Now let's hear from you.

If you think West Yorkshire sounds like the kind of place where both you and your business would work well, ring the number below or write to:

The Industrial Development Officer, West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council, County Hall, Wakefield WF1 2QW

**RING NOW!**  
**0924 67111**

**WEST YORKSHIRE**  
Metropolitan County Council



IBM is an example of the kind of company that is being attracted to West Yorkshire. Hardworking companies with their sights set on the future.

Companies that will work well in West Yorkshire.

*John Waddington Ltd*

Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield. The five districts which make up the bus industrial conurbation of West Yorkshire.

Yet even though it has been a centre of industry since the Industrial Revolution, West Yorkshire is still an area ripe for expansion.

It has room for you to grow with land available, it's Britain's number one communications centre and it has a whole host of other advantages to offer you live and work well in West Yorkshire.

But rather than list them, just listen to what people from some of the well-established and equally well-known companies in West Yorkshire have to say.

**NORMAN REYNOLDS**

Norman Reynolds is Sales and Marketing Director at Doulton Tempered Glass in Bradford, one of the biggest independent glass manufacturers in the region.

Doulton are also one of the young breed of businesses in West Yorkshire. They're here just five years ago in '74.

Here in a nutshell is why Norman is so impressed with West Yorkshire as an area: "Our double glazing and tempered glass sales have increased by phenomenal 7% since 1974. This increase has justified the best way possible the company's decision to invest and expand in West Yorkshire."

**MICHAEL ROBSON**

Michael Robson, Marketing Planning and Development Manager of the world-famous David Brown Tractors from Huddersfield, now affiliated to the American J.I. Case Company, has this to say about the excellent communications in West Yorkshire:

"We export up to 80% of our farm tractor production, and good communications are vital. In West Yorkshire, we are within easy reach of the M6, M62, M1 and A1, a motorway network which gives us fast links with the east and west coast ports of Hull and Liverpool, the main railheads of Bradford and Leeds and our two closest airports of Leeds/Bronx and Manchester."

It's really down to two main points. First, a tight pool of experience and settled labour; and, incidentally, our labour force is increased by 50% since '74. Second, the plant is extremely well positioned from a supply point of view. In fact we've a factory that leaves the factory mid-afternoon

and is in Rotterdam at 6.00 a.m. the next morning, so you can see the Common Market is right on our doorstep."

These are two of West Yorkshire's biggest advantages.

A hardworking, diligent and fair workforce which has one of the lowest strike records in the country.

And communications. The ability to get supplies and services in and out of the area quickly, easily and economically. An attribute which our second spokesman will now amplify.

Doulton Tempered Glass Ltd

Doulton Glass Insulation Ltd

*Michael Robson*

**HARRY HARANGOZO**

Harry Harangozo is the Manager of The Post House, Wakefield, one of the Trust Houses Forte hotels.

The Post House has been open for seven years now and is extremely popular as a venue for business conferences and

because of its position near the M1 and M62, as a stopover for the businessman on the move. Harry says:

The site was chosen because of its situation in the heart of Britain's number one communications network.

And as West Yorkshire's business has grown, ours has grown accordingly. In fact, we're a kind of yardstick for West Yorkshire's

market. Mike also believes West Yorkshire gives

another glowing tribute to the West Yorkshire people, and another case of how they can help your company grow by working well."

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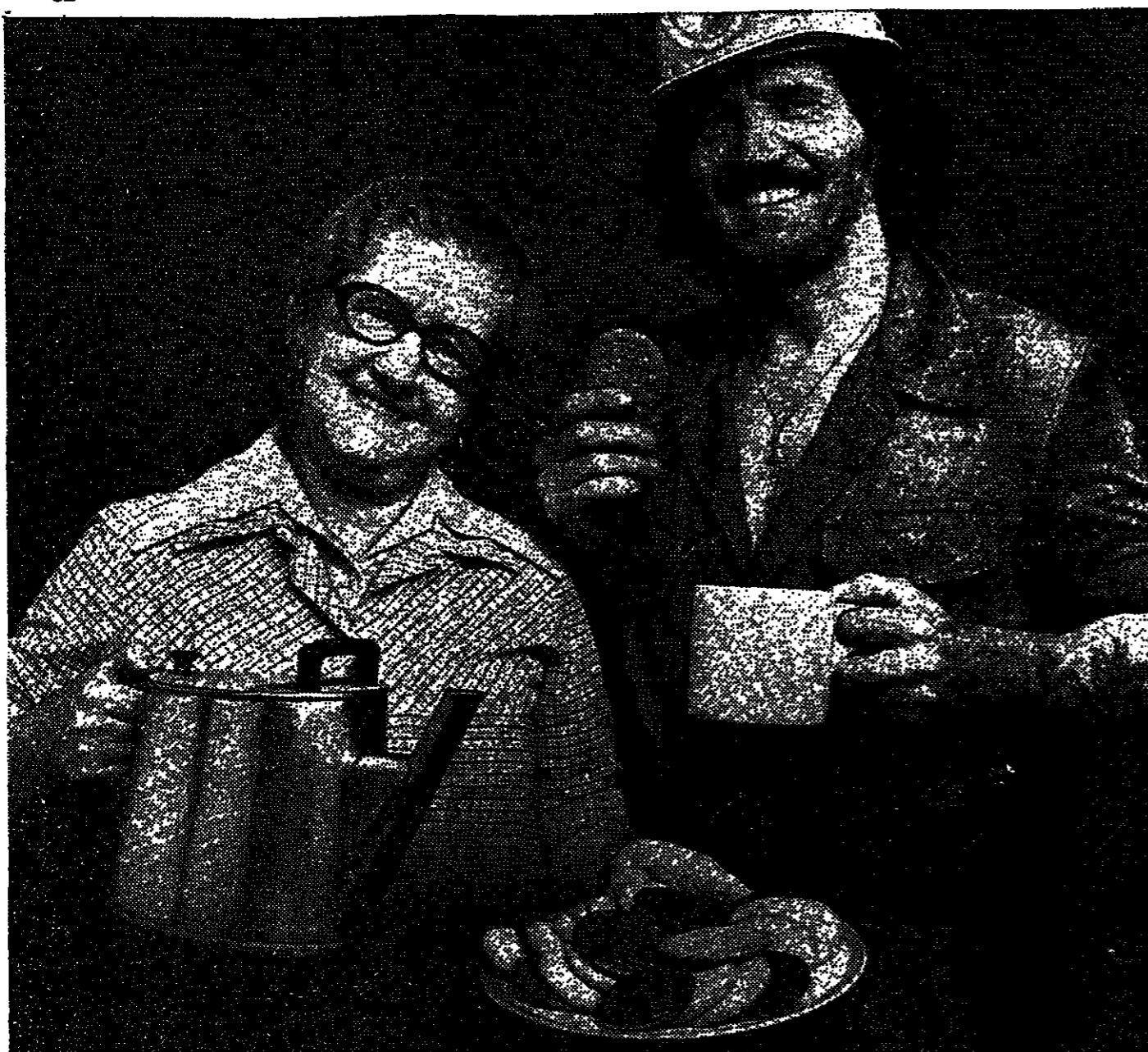
**WEST YORKSHIRE**

Metropolitan County Council

*Michael Robson*

**RING NOW!**

**0924 67111**



## Guess which group of companies belts out coal as well as it does biscuits?

Coal mining and mass-production baking are among a number of modern industries which depend greatly on efficient materials handling and the movement of products from one process to another. Conveyor belting to move coal must be flexible, tough and above all flame resistant; while belting for modern baking processes must be non-contaminating and possess physical characteristics which are compatible with automated dough moulding.

Scandura Limited, one of the BBA Group of companies, is a major supplier of belting to

the NCB and a major webbing supplier to the UK biscuit industry. You'll also find BBA hard at work for you in your car with Mintex brake and clutch linings, with Regna glass fibre products, Railko bearings, and in many other ways...making modern life safer and more comfortable in Britain and around the world.



BBA Group Ltd., P.O. Box 20, Whitechapel Road, Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire BD 19 6HP. Tel: Cleckheaton 874444.

## The French bank with a flair for financing international trade and investment

When dealing with a major country, you need to deal with a major bank. We are one of the ten leading banks in the world. Our network of 2,600 branches, affiliated banks and specialised subsidiaries is ready to assist you throughout France and in 51 countries throughout the world.



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Birmingham Branch : New Oxford House, 16 Waterloo Street, Birmingham B2 5UD Tel: (021) 632 6551-6  
Bristol Branch : 37 Corn Street, Bristol BS99 7ET Tel: (0272) 299501-5  
Leeds Branch : 35 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5JJ Tel: (0532) 459671. (Open April 1979)

Head Office : 29 Bd. Haussmann, 75009 Paris Tel: 266 54 00

Manchester Branch : 28/32 Fountain Street, Manchester M60 2AD Tel: (061) 834 4706  
Merchant Bank : Societe Generale (France) Bank Limited, Pinners Hall, Austin Friars, London EC2P 2DN Tel: (01) 628 8661  
Leasing Company : Socgen Lease Ltd., Pinners Hall, Austin Friars, London EC2P 2DN Tel: (01) 628 8661

## THEY MAY BE GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU BUT... WE'RE NOT SATISFIED.

We've never been satisfied with our tractors. Ever since we built the first one in 1936 we've had a reputation for engineering innovation. In fact every model we've produced has been an improvement on the one before.

For many years now up to 80% of our production has been exported to more than 70 countries. But we're not resting on our laurels. We're looking ahead.

That's why we've just invested £15 million on research and development.

An investment that's provided us with a new

streamlined parts supply centre. A unique metal treatment and paint plant. A new and bigger tractor cab assembly line and major machine tool replacement.

Just some of the ways in which we're maintaining our record of meeting the requirements of farmers the world over.

We may never be completely satisfied with our efforts, but then we are aiming for perfection.

**David Brown Tractors Ltd**  
A Texaco Company  
Affiliate of J.I. Case



DAVID BROWN ■ Case

هذا من الأفضل

## WEST YORKSHIRE II

# Fears about future for wool textiles

THE UK wool textile industry has entered the current year in a state of some perplexity.

Encouraged by successive governments, the industry, which employs in total around 80,000 has been a veritable model for other UK industries, maintaining a strong programme of investment and an aggressive attack on overseas markets.

Helped by assistance under the Industry Act, it has spent around £100m over the past five years on new plant and equipment, rationalisation and restructuring. It has also lifted the proportion of sales going overseas from the 25-30 per cent average of the early 1970s to around 40 per cent, with total overseas earnings last year exceeding £400m.

Yet despite this performance, wool textile manufacturers find themselves asking once again what sort of future lies ahead for the industry as it faces up to renewed difficulties. Trade union leaders, too, are beginning to question whether the sacrifices made—including the loss of 4,500 jobs through Industry Aid-said schemes—were worth it. Instead of being able to enjoy higher wages and greater job security as a result of accepting changes, the labour force still finds itself working long hours, including overtime, for modest returns, with the prospect of further closures and redundancies ahead.

The industry's main problem and the reason for the current uncertainty is the loss of competitiveness in the home market, where the assault is now being mounted across a very broad front.

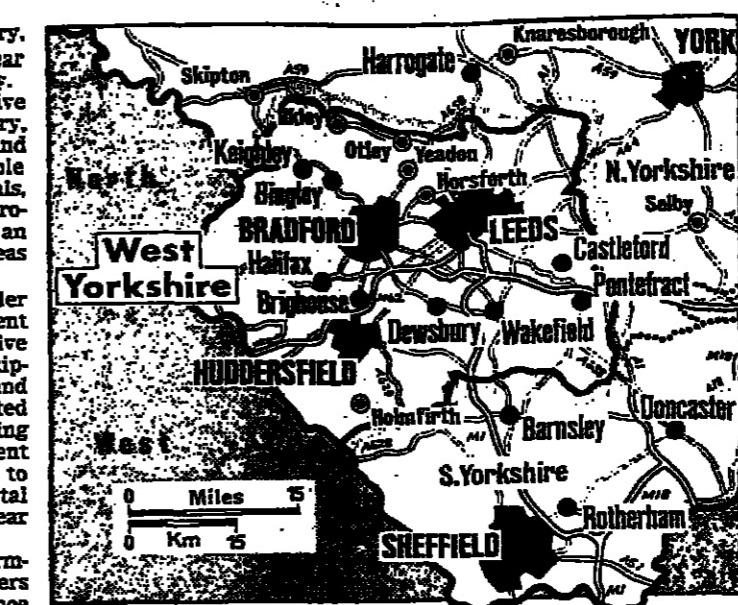
With the trend in clothing continuing to move towards a more casual appearance, 1978 saw a big rise in the consumption of woollen (as opposed to worsted) fabrics. Sadly, however, most of the increased UK market was met by imports, mainly from Italy.

### Competition

Producers in the Prato region of Italy now dominate the West European woollen scene and managed last year to increase their sales into the UK by 80 per cent to an estimated 25m sq metres, or roughly four-fifths of all woollen fabric imports.

Producers in West Yorkshire have also been feeling the effects of increased competition from other EEC countries and this has more than offset the limitations now imposed on exports from low-cost countries under the GATT multi-fibre arrangement. Imports of fabrics, yarns and tops (combed wool) from France have all increased significantly over the past year. EEC countries have also been increasing their penetration of the UK suit market, which has in any case been declining over recent years, again as a result of the switch to casual clothing. These developments have hit the wool textile industry's customers—and hence reduced their purchases of cloth.

At the same time the threat from low-cost sources remains strong. Though the Government has been able to persuade the EEC to take action in a number of cases—for example against Argentina, which was placed under quota last year after stepping up its exports



of wool cloth to Britain—the threat from other sources is less easily countered.

The EEC's Mediterranean associates, in particular, although now subject to a degree of control, enjoy privileged access to EEC markets, and the three associates pursuing full EEC membership—Greece, Spain and Portugal—will be a continuing source of strong competition.

Britain, too, is having to fight very strongly within the EEC against the adoption of a liberal policy on outward processing—the transfer of fabric outside the Community for conversion into clothing followed by subsequent re-importation. Though initially only the labour-intensive clothing process would be carried out in low-cost countries, the textile industry believes other processing stages such as the manufacture of wool textiles would be transferred later as well.

The threat to the wool textile industry comes in fact at both ends of the processing spectrum. Countries such as South Africa and Australia, which produce much of the wool used in the UK, have already moved forward into top-making and spinning.

The industry's other current problem is the weakening of some of its most important export markets as the world recession goes on. Demand from Japan and the Middle East, two markets which have served the Huddersfield-based fine worsted trade very well during the 1970s, has levelled off and excessive tariffs make it very difficult for the industry to penetrate the

market.

In the home market it is recognised that the industry will do well to contain imports at their present level rather than at earlier levels set in 1975.

The implication of these lower levels set in 1975 is that there are fewer jobs with employment of production workers falling from 58,000 at present to between 47,000 and 54,000 by 1980. Most of the loss would fall on West Yorkshire as the main manufacturing centre in the UK.

But although the industry's prospects look less bright than had been hoped only a year or

two ago, it nevertheless has a number of strengths which seem certain to help it maintain its position as one of the world's most important producers of high-quality cloth.

First the investment which has taken place under the Industry Aid scheme means that the sector now has a model production base which any of its rivals in Europe also has the standard of relatively low by European standards at any rate in textile labour costs. These costs were recently estimated at 100 per cent more than those in the UK. Italian costs are 40 per cent greater, and German, Dutch and Belgian costs twice as great.

Developments within the trade over the past year have also been, however, threatening the ability to survive, quicken its feet. The wool trade has benefited for the few years from the popularity on the Continent of British-looking menswear, but an even more important development has been the trend towards casual clothing, a move away from woollen production.

The extent to which this import met the increased demand for woollen cloth in the UK suggests that producers in West Yorkshire where the wool trade has for some time been far less healthy than the worsted—failed to see the opportunities and did not have available at the right price the materials that potential customers were seeking.

The EDC also pointed out in its recent report on the sector that substantial scope exists for improving the industry's share of EEC markets. At present despite having almost one-third of the EEC's wool textile labour force, Britain comes behind Italy, West Germany, France and the Netherlands in terms of intra-EEC trade.

Opportunities as well as problems therefore stretch before the wool textile industry, which for all its difficulties remains one of the most important elements in the West Yorkshire economy since most of it is based in the county. The lesson of the past year is that even with successful programmes of investment and rationalisation behind it, the industry will have to keep on trying harder if it is to succeed in placing its products with customers not able to choose from an ever-widening list of sources.

Rhys David

## How to pass Go in games market



Mr. Victor Watson

ONE OF Britain's top-selling board games last year was Campaign. It is a war game based on the Duke of Wellington's battles in the Napoleonic Wars.

But for selling in Germany the name of the game has been changed to Waterloo. The reason, according to Mr. Victor Watson, chairman of the makers, John Waddington, is that the Germans identify with Waterloo. Remembering Blucher's last-minute appearance on the battlefield, they regard it as one of their famous victories.

Coping with such matters of gamesmanship is Mr. Watson's business. His Leeds-based printing group has in the past half century built up a top position in the UK games market.

Mr. Watson is Mr. Monopoly. His company holds the licence for what is still the world's best-selling board game and people in Leeds will tell you that the company owes its prosperity to it. That isn't quite true.

The latter-day story of Waddington's goes back to 1913. At that time it was a small printing company producing theatre programmes and deeply in debt. The then foreman printer—another Victor Watson and the present chairman's grandfather—persuaded the directors to let him try to revive the business, which had 23 employees left and was valued at less than £10,000. The company now employs 3,000 and last year's pre-tax profits exceeded £2.5m.

The reigning Victor Watson fills in the gaps. In the 1930s Wills, the tobacco company, introduced giveaway playing cards in cigarette packets and Waddington won the contract to print them, a deal which carried the company through the slump of the 1930s. And it was a playing card word game, Lexicon, that put Waddington in the games business. Monopoly came later.

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Now Mr. Watson, 50, a Cambridge graduate and ex-Royal Engineer, presides over a games empire that takes in Canada, the U.S. and France and is expanding in UK development areas such as Scotland and Teesside.

The plum in the pudding is certainly Monopoly. In 1977, the World Monopoly championships took over Monte Carlo's casino and an operation which became known as Victor Watson's Flying Circus began.

Competitors, organisers and journalists were flown to Monaco in a specially-chartered

jet and escorted to the car park by yellow Rolls-Royces and police-motor cycle team. A

part of people's fantasy life is to be a tycoon for a night, general for a night. One

Watson's latest product is a racing game called I

You Shout, which I saw being played enthusiastically

by drivers, trainers and jockeys.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

## WEST YORKSHIRE III

## Building societies debate future

**I**N A CLEAR day, from the futuristic new headquarters of the Halifax Building Society dominating the city's skyline, you can see, if not forever, at least a substantial area of the rolling green and open sides of the West Yorkshire countryside. However, views of the future prospects facing the building societies, of which West Yorkshire is both the traditional home and the current base of one of Britain's largest societies, are rather more muted.

Officials at the Halifax, which with its £7.6bn assets, nearly a open mortgage accounts and in investors' accounts, is the largest of Britain's 326 societies, do not quite share the view held in some parts of the building society movement that a crisis is beginning to darken the horizon. But the view itself is gaining ground, even if the crisis is seven or eight years off, and concerns the societies' continuing ability both to attract the increasingly huge sums needed to cover rising house prices and the rising level of private home ownership, and to convert into mortgages an adequate amount of the funds at they do take in.

The crisis lobbyists, whose leaders include Mr Alan Mason, chief general manager of the provincial Building Society, headquartered 20 miles from Halifax, in Leeds, argue that major restructuring of the movement's entire interest rates ladder is necessary. They claim at it must involve both a cut in the rates paid to short-term, frequent-transaction accounts and higher rates for more able, long-term investments. If the societies are to head off the prospect of mortgage famine, considerably more expensive borrowing by the late 80s.

They base their case on a number of factors and suggest that, although societies have managed so far to retain their share of slightly more than one-third of personal savings, finding even the expected £20bn added to make 1m home loans in the mid-1980s, compared with £8.5bn for £800,000 last year, is going to prove difficult.

The average level of withdrawal by investors has already increased markedly, mainly as result of the trend within societies to encourage investors to use their accounts much like bank account. The average level of individual savers'

balances has also fallen considerably, contributing to the effect that five investors are now needed to cover one mortgage, against a ratio of 2:1 less than 20 years ago.

And, with a total of 23m investment accounts open in Britain, the danger is pointed out that the movement might simply run out of investors.

Finally, say the lobbyists, the proliferation of transactions by investors is bringing an extra dimension to the problem through higher operating costs.

Mr Richard Whewell, the Halifax's financial general manager, says: "It's perfectly true that if you look at the ratio of investors to borrowers, it has been going up. The ratio of new investors to new borrowers has been going up even faster." But in the longer term, Mr Whewell suggests, the situation is still not one to cause undue alarm.

"Small accounts do tend to become larger ones, and there is an underlying stability to the smaller accounts which is not present at the moment among the larger ones." Because of the larger accounts' greater volatility, he concedes that there might be a case for new documents encouraging larger accounts into longer-term lending. "But what I don't see is the sense of attracting vast sums of money at a high premium in order to lend it out at a rate that is in fact less than the cost of what one is offering to the investor."

He also accepts that the crisis lobbyists might have a point in suggesting that it is wrong or uneconomic—at least—to pay the same interest on a small and frequently moving account as on the larger and, at least potentially, more immovable ones. "I don't know whether we have quite seen it on that basis in the past; maybe we shall have to look again if people really do come to use their building society accounts as current accounts. But I don't think we've got to that stage yet."

And, the Halifax suggests, the proportion of investors actually using their accounts in that manner remains relatively small and operating costs have not been significantly heightened by their activities.

The issues involved are complex, and debate on the future courses open to the societies is bound to increase rather than diminish, not least in West Yorkshire where the movement's uncontrolled industrial past is

still all too evident. Staffing presents few problems given the access to some of Britain's most picturesque countryside.

Indeed, despite the continuing rundown in the textiles and clothing industries, the underlying prosperity and potential of the area, which enjoys intermediate assisted status and has an unemployment rate only a shade above the national average, is reflected in the steady growth of Leeds in particular as a financial and administrative centre for the region. Housing the head office of the Yorkshire Bank, it also contains the regional headquarters of the clearing banks.

During the late 1960s, it also attracted in an increasing number of merchant and foreign banks, although the economic setbacks of the post-1974 period have brought about some retrenchment. Nevertheless, apart from the merchant banking activities of the clearing banks themselves, Hill Samuel, N. M. Rothschild, Singer and Friedlander, and Julian B. Hodge are among those represented, together with the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation (ICFC).

Most recently, among the foreign banks, the Banque Nationale de Paris has set up shop, while the presence of others such as the Bank of Credit and Commerce International has been supplemented by those servicing the large Asian immigrant population of Bradford and Leeds, notably the Bank of India and Bank of Baroda.

The merchant banks' operations tend to be at the representative level, however, with a man on the spot closely in contact with the area's peculiar needs, but with substantive operations still taking place in London. With lack of demand for finance, rather than its availability, serving to depress banking activity in the current economic climate, competition for business remains intense. It is a situation which is unlikely to change radically in the near future.

Mr Ron Taylor, director of Leeds' Chamber of Commerce, observes: "As with most other places, although there has been something of a business upturn recently, the industries of West Yorkshire are by no means certain that it is any more than a temporary phenomenon. Beneath it all, there remains an underlying lack of confidence."

John Griffiths

And they have clung to their West Yorkshire bases. Computerised operations have to a large degree cancelled out the disadvantages of not having a London headquarters base, even for such large national operations. And although despite effective city centre modernisation schemes, West Yorkshire that the permanent societies got under way 130 years ago.

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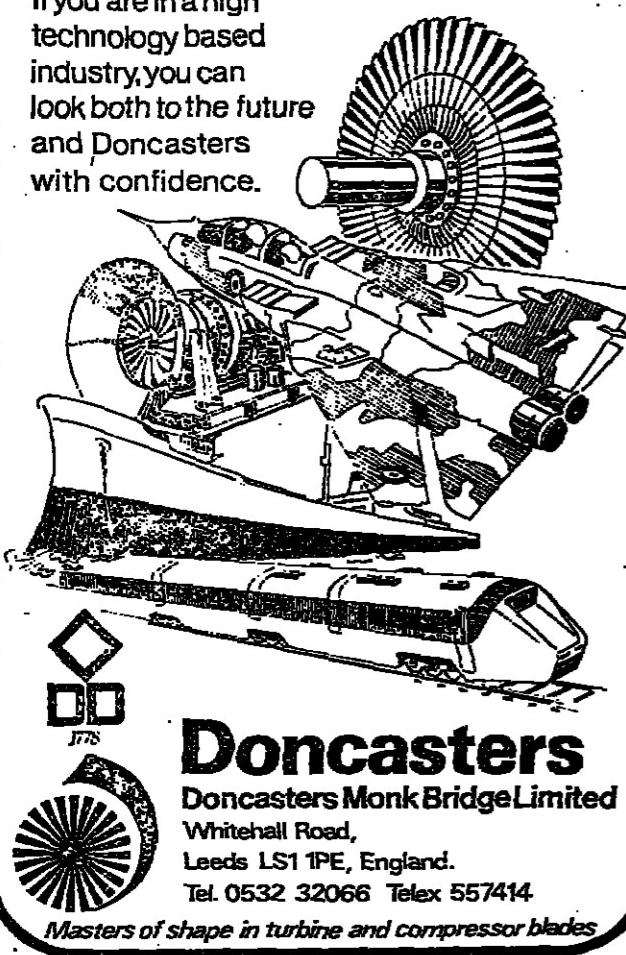
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## WEST YORKSHIRE IV

# Unions: a moderate tradition

LABOUR RELATIONS in West Yorkshire have been marked by moderation on the part of both the unions and management. Hand in hand has gone a rate of unemployment better than that for the Yorkshire-Humber side region and the country as a whole but with distinct area variations—and some significant underlying problems.

Although local authorities, development agencies, industry and the unions claim with considerable justification that industrial relations in West Yorkshire are good in relation to many other parts of the Yorkshire-Humberside region and to the country as a whole, over the past year there have been some considerable management-union conflicts over a wide range of issues.

These have included the 38-day Leeds bus strike over a new routing scheme and pay, a five-week strike in the clay industry, a pay dispute at BBA, a union recognition fight involving the TASS section of the engineering union at the Hopkinson engineering company, Huddersfield, and a strike relating to ownership changes at the Moderna blanket-making company.

These have been on top of national disputes—the lorry drivers and local authority and health service strikes for example—which have encompassed West Yorkshire. These stand out as exceptions, however, and in national terms most of the county's local strikes would not be considered major disputes. A number of factors have conspired to produce this situation.

First, factories in West Yorkshire have traditionally been small and remain so. The big-

gest rarely employ more than a few thousand workers and a great many have only a few hundred. This helps management and shopfloor to keep in relatively close touch with each other and ensures that in individual company strikes, the man hours lost figure is low.

A second related factor is that the county does not have many of the industries that are noticeably prone to worker-management conflict. There are no car manufacturing plants, shipyards or docks and very little mining.

Some of its indigenous industries, like textiles and clothing, have had long periods of decline where the attention of the workforce has largely been centred on survival. In some sectors the distribution of the workforce, with large numbers of immigrants and women, has not been conducive to strong trade unionism.

There may also be something in the character of the people. Mr. Brian Bigley, regional director of the CBI, points to a tradition among management of being accessible to its workers. Both he and Mr. Ernie Hayhurst, regional secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, also point to a deeply bred work ethic within the population. Moderation has been assisted by relatively low unemployment levels.

Much of the relative peace has stemmed from the traditionally moderate leadership at the top of the local union structure—men like Hayhurst and Mr. St. John Binns, district secretary for the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. Both these men are retiring this year but the tradition of maintaining an honest

working relationship between unions and management is expected to continue.

Unemployment in the whole of the Yorkshire-Humberside region has been largely in line with the national average over the past decade, although in 1975-77 it was marginally better. Last year it was the same at 6 per cent. The figures for West Yorkshire, however, have been consistently, even dramatically, better than those for other areas of the region and of the country as a whole.

In 1971 West Yorkshire's percentage unemployment figure for men and women together was 3.5 per cent, against the region's 3.9 per cent. The following year it was 3.6 per cent compared with 4.2 per cent, the biggest percentage variation between the county and the region during the decade. Between 1975 and 1977 the margin was smaller and last year West Yorkshire's unemployment was 5.6 per cent as against the region's 6 per cent.

### Differences

There are some marked differences in unemployment figures within West Yorkshire, however. In simple terms, areas centred on Bradford and Castleford are problem black spots whereas Halifax and Huddersfield are doing much better than the county as a whole.

Bradford is almost certainly the biggest worry and its position relative to the county is worsening. In 1971 unemployment in the city was slightly worse than in the region between 1972 and 1974 it was slightly better but its position has shown a deteriora-

tion since 1975. Last year unemployment in Bradford was 1 per cent higher than in the region and 1.4 per cent higher than West Yorkshire's average.

The main problem for Bradford has been further slides in the textile industry, with the 2,000 redundancies announced by the Thorn electrical group last year a separate blow.

Castleford is a traditionally high unemployment area. Although it is still worse than in the county, average unemployment in and around Castleford has been lower than Bradford's since 1976.

To put the matter in perspective, however, Bradford's figures are not as bad as those for some other areas of the region outside West Yorkshire—Hull and Mexborough, for example—nor are they as severe as a large number of industrial areas in other parts of the country.

Last year the unemployment figures in Halifax and Huddersfield was not nearly so bad as in the region because of the spread of industry in those two areas, with Huddersfield in particular having a high and less vulnerable manufacturing base.

If male unemployment alone is taken into account Bradford's relative position is even worse and that of Huddersfield's better.

As in the whole of the country, there have been special factors governing unemployment among West Yorkshire's women. Between 1971 and 1978 there was a 259 per cent leap in female unemployment, far outrunning the increase in male unemployment. In the region the unemployment figure

for women was up 245 per cent. As with the national picture, much of this problem has been caused by the sheer numbers of women coming on to the jobs market.

The Department of Employment says that what is perhaps surprising is that female unemployment in West Yorkshire has not suffered last year a separate blow.

The number of jobs filled by women in the county fell more than 16 per cent in 1971-76 as against the country and the regional figures of slightly more than 11.5 per cent. Beyond that West Yorkshire has no highly developed service sector industry where unemployment growth has been highest and therefore there is less of an employment sponge to soak up redundancies.

Nick Garner

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## MINES—Continued

## AUSTRALIAN

Dividends Paid	Stock	Price	Last	Br	Cv	Td	Yd	Wk's
Aug.	James Rds. 10p	26	26.6	0.3	0.4	2.16	2.6	
Jan.	Mylon. Euro. Corp.	210	20.51	4.7	2.1	1.5	1.5	
Feb.	Nov. Lon. Merchant.	87	72.1	0.4	0.1	1.42	2.4	
March	Nov. Lon. Merchant.	87	72.1	0.4	0.1	1.42	2.4	
April	Nov. Martin (R.P.) 5s	54	13.11	0.75	0.1	1.42	2.4	
May	Moss Mart. & Fly	950	85.16	6.1	—	—	—	
June	Moyley Ind. 10p	27	27.11	1.45	0.1	1.42	2.4	
July	Hipper Ind. 10p	320	24.7	1.45	1.0	1.15	0.8	
August	Parsons 10p	474	474	—	—	—	—	
September	Park Place Inv.	55	11.10	1.0	0.1	4.1	4.1	
October	Nov. Person. & Son	26	26.1	0.1	0.1	4.1	4.1	
November	Nov. Scot. & Merc.	85	72.11	0.37	1.2	2.2	2.4	
December	S.E.C. Corp. 5s	57	18.7	0.8	0.1	1.42	2.4	
January	O.Smith Bros.	52	12.2	0.47	0.1	1.42	2.4	
February	Star Flt. 10p	24	24.7	0.1	0.1	4.1	4.1	
March	State Elect. 10p	26	26.2	2.1	0.1	4.1	4.1	
April	State Select. 20p	62	62	4.5	3.7	7.6	7.6	
May	Ost. West of Englan.	62	62	4.5	3.7	7.6	7.6	
June	Vordenber 10p	135	132	10.33	3.8	3.7	3.7	
July	Auglyte Cato 10p	77	13.1	1.41	0.1	3.0	3.0	

## OILS

Dividends Paid	Stock	Price	Last	Br	Cv	Td	Yd	Wk's
January	Aeromar Energy 1s	95	95	—	—	—	—	
February	Artock 20p	100	100	1.54	0.1	1.5	1.5	
March	Bell. Brit. Ind. & Gen.	216	216	0.23	0.1	2.2	2.2	
April	Bell. Brit. Ind. & Gen.	216	216	0.23	0.1	2.2	2.2	
May	Bell. Brit. Ind. & Gen.	216	216	0.23	0.1	2.2	2.2	
June	Bell. Brit. Ind. & Gen.	216	216	0.23	0.1	2.2	2.2	
July	Bell. Brit. Ind. & Gen.	216	216	0.23	0.1	2.2	2.2	
August	Bell. Brit. Ind. & Gen.	216	216	0.23	0.1	2.2	2.2	
September	Bell. Brit. Ind. & Gen.	216	216	0.23	0.1	2.2	2.2	
October	Bell. Brit. Ind. & Gen.	216	216	0.23	0.1	2.2	2.2	
November	Bell. Brit. Ind. & Gen.	216	216	0.23	0.1	2.2	2.2	
December	Bell. Brit. Ind. & Gen.	216	216	0.23	0.1	2.2	2.2	
January	Burnham 1s	96	96	1.7	0.1	2.2	2.2	
February	Camborne 10p	126	126	0.1	0.1	2.2	2.2	
March	Cardinal Drf.	116	7.5	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
April	Cardinal Drf.	116	7.5	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
May	Cardinal Drf.	116	7.5	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
June	Cardinal Drf.	116	7.5	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
July	Cardinal Drf.	116	7.5	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
August	Cardinal Drf.	116	7.5	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
September	Cardinal Drf.	116	7.5	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
October	Cardinal Drf.	116	7.5	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
November	Cardinal Drf.	116	7.5	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
December	Cardinal Drf.	116	7.5	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
January	Charter Trust	62	21.25	4.5	0.1	2.2	2.2	
February	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
March	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
April	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
May	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
June	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
July	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
August	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
September	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
October	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
November	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
December	City & Co. Inc.	294	119.2	0.05	0.1	2.2	2.2	
January	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
February	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
March	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
April	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
May	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
June	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
July	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
August	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
September	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
October	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
November	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
December	Coastal Sec. Dist.	242	9.0	1.0	0.1	2.2	2.2	
January	McIntyre 10p	118	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
February	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
March	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
April	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
May	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
June	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
July	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
August	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
September	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
October	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
November	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
December	Midland Inv. 10p	120	12.0	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
January	Monks Inv. 10p	87	87	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
February	Monks Inv. 10p	87	87	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
March	Monks Inv. 10p	87	87	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
April	Monks Inv. 10p	87	87	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
May	Monks Inv. 10p	87	87	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
June	Monks Inv. 10p	87	87	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
July	Monks Inv. 10p	87	87	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
August	Monks Inv. 10p	87	87	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
September	Monks Inv. 10p	87	87	0.3	0.1	2.2	2.2	
October	Monks Inv. 10p	87						

